

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

JAMES E. ROGERS IS HONORED BY THE GREATER CINCINNATI REGION OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR COMMUNITY AND JUSTICE AT ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY AWARDS DINNER

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize James E. Rogers, a friend, distinguished constituent and dedicated volunteer who will be honored for his service to our community at the Greater Cincinnati Region of the National Conference for Community and Justice's 60th Anniversary Awards Dinner (NCCJ) on May 27, 2004.

Jim has actively participated in many community organizations, and he has particular interest in education and the arts. He has been a member of the advisory board of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center; the board of visitors of University of Kentucky College of Law; the Business Partnership Foundation of the University of Kentucky; the Corporate Council for the Hebrew Union College; Ohio State University's Ohio Business Advisory Council; and the Dan Beard Council of the Boy Scouts of America. He has also been a member of the board of the Cincinnati Children's Home.

Jim has served the Cincinnati Art Museum; the Cincinnati Arts Association; the Cincinnati Human Relations Commission; the National Conference of Christians and Jews; and the Cincinnati Music Festival Association. In addition, Jim has chaired the Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky United Way Campaign; the Cincinnati Zoo Capital Campaign; and the Cincinnati Juvenile Diabetes Walk-a-thon.

Jim is Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Cinergy Corporation, a Midwest leader in energy generation. Jim has served more than 30 years on the boards of Fortune 500 companies, including Fifth Third Bancorp and Duke Realty Corporation. He received his B.B.A. and J.D. degrees from the University of Kentucky, and was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Indiana State University.

Jim also has a strong interest in public policy issues and served in government as Chief Trial Counsel at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). He is married to Mary Anne Rogers, has three children and four grandchildren.

All of us in Greater Cincinnati thank Jim for his service to our area and congratulate him on receiving this special honor from NCCJ.

CELEBRATING POLAND'S CONSTITUTION DAY

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise, on behalf of 111,000 of my constituents who are of Polish descent, to recognize the anniversary of the ratification of Poland's Constitution on May 3rd. We remember the men and women who first penned their historic constitution 219 years ago. We have another reason to celebrate as this year's anniversary will be the first since Poland has joined nine of its neighbors in achieving membership in the European Union.

In many ways, the foundation of Poland's constitution parallels our own, written only four years later. Following our model, the Polish Constitution of 1791 establishes three equal branches of government—a Legislative, an Executive, and a Judiciary Branch. It also promotes the philosophies of liberty, democracy, and religious freedom for all people. The constitution remains a landmark document that inspired generations of Poles through the turbulence of the eighteenth century, both World Wars and communist rule. Its longevity and survival exemplifies the strong democratic tradition and values of the Polish people.

Polish immigrants have imported these same traditions and values into the United States. Throughout our own history, Polish-American citizens have contributed to local communities. In the 5th district, from the lakefront to the western suburbs, the Polish-American community shares a leading role in business, fine arts, charity and many other forms of public service. The Polish-American influence has shaped the city of Chicago and our nation into the strong and vibrant communities they are today.

Mr. Speaker, Poland has stood shoulder-to-shoulder with the United States and its friendship has never wavered through the tumultuous events in our own history. Now is the time when we must return the favor by contributing to Poland's prosperity and security as it enters a new era as a full and respected member of the EU.

Poland's loyalty to the U.S. and its generous commitment of resources and manpower throughout the global war on terror and in the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq will never be forgotten by our grateful nation. Poland has repeatedly proven itself a steadfast ally from the beginning, sending more than 1,700 troops and special forces, second only to Great Britain, to help with Operation Iraqi Freedom and the reconstruction efforts.

Still, our Polish friends visiting their families in the United States are treated differently than other allies. Despite its proven loyalty and contributions to our security, Poles must still apply and pay for visas to enter the United States. That is why I have introduced H. Res. 601 in response to this discrepancy. My reso-

lution calls upon the State Department to include Poland in the Visa Waiver Program. What better way to celebrate Poland's anniversary than to grant this waiver.

Mr. Speaker, the Polish Constitution is a symbol of pride and strength for Polish citizens throughout the world. I look forward to working with my colleagues and in support of Poland's efforts to flourish as an integral partner of the global economy and coalition against terror. Together we can continue to achieve the same principles of freedom and democracy that both our constitutions set forth over two centuries ago.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. PHILIP C. HOPEWELL

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate my constituent, Philip C. Hopewell, MD. The American Lung Association has awarded Dr. Hopewell, a leader in the fight against tuberculosis, the Edward Livingston Trudeau Medal to recognize his lifelong contribution to the prevention diagnosis and treatment of lung disease.

In 1970, Dr. Hopewell took a brief sabbatical from his internal medicine residency program at the University of California San Francisco to work in war-torn Nigeria as a consultant to the Nigerian government on their tuberculosis control program. Dr. Hopewell's experience gave him first hand knowledge of the problems faced by developing countries in implementing effective tuberculosis control programs. More importantly, it gave Dr. Hopewell the belief that effective TB control programs can be established in the developing world.

Since 1971, Dr. Hopewell has shared his expertise in designing and implementing TB control programs. Most recently, Dr. Hopewell has worked as vice-chair of the Strategic and Technical Advisory Group for the World Health Organization (WHO) Stop TB Department. In his capacity at the WHO-STOP TB Partnership, Dr. Hopewell has provided technical expertise to developing nations around the globe on development and implementation of effective TB programs.

I first became aware of Dr. Hopewell's work about five years ago when we met to discuss increasing the U.S. committee to TB control at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). At that time, the USAID contribution to international TB control was essentially zero. Dr. Hopewell made it clear to all who would listen that TB control programs can work in the developing world and it is in our country's best interests to take an active role. Through Dr. Hopewell's work and the hard work of many others, the U.S. support for international TB control has grown. Yet there is more to be done, as Dr. Hopewell always reminds me.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

While the world has benefited from Dr. Hopewell's work, he has not ignored the problem of TB at home in San Francisco. Dr. Hopewell became involved in the San Francisco tuberculosis control program through his supervision of a contract by which clinical services were provided to the Department of Public Health. The affiliation of an academic institution and an effective public health tuberculosis control program has provided and continues to provide important opportunities for training and research in many aspects of tuberculosis control. This combination forms the foundation of the Frances J. Curry National Tuberculosis Center, directed by Dr. Hopewell. The Curry Center is one of three CDC-funded model centers in the country.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Hopewell is a teacher, a healer, a scientist and an international humanitarian. I join many throughout this country in recognizing and honoring Dr. Hopewell and his lifetime of achievement in the research, prevention and treatment of lung disease.

IN RECOGNITION OF WALTER CRONKITE RECEIVING THE HARRY S TRUMAN GOOD NEIGHBOR AWARD

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Walter Cronkite, recipient of the 2004 Harry S Truman Good Neighbor Award. In 1953, longtime friends arranged an annual birthday luncheon for the then retired 33rd President of the United States, Harry S Truman. After his death in 1972, the birthday celebration was continued in his honor through a local foundation established to continue to pay tribute to his virtues of courage and leadership. Each year, the Harry S Truman Good Neighbor Award Foundation recognizes the national and international ideals of President Truman and preserves his memory by honoring such local individuals and encouraging young people to pursue international study.

This year, the foundation has selected Walter Cronkite to receive the prestigious Good Neighbor Award in recognition of his outstanding career in broadcasting. For more than 60 years Americans nightly received unbiased and factual national and international wisdom from the golden voice of Walter Cronkite. This Northwest Missourian brought us reports from the European theater in World War II and reported on the Nuremberg trials. His insights to the turbulent 60's awakened us to civil rights and human rights issues. He comforted us through the grief of three assassinations in that same decade, reporting the dreadful news to a shocked nation with his characteristic insight and somber vision. When President John F. Kennedy was struck down in November of 1963, followed by the murder of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. just before Palm Sunday in 1968, and then Sen. Robert Kennedy's killing on the eve of his California primary victory in June of the same year, the loss of these great leaders was all but unbearable, were it not for the constant and reassuring presence of Walter Cronkite, reaching out to us with straightforward and thoughtful news reporting.

Walter Cronkite became a war correspondent again in the late 60's when he reported to a divided country on Vietnam. Following the Tet offensive in January of 1968, often considered a turning point in the war, Cronkite visited the war torn country and called for diplomatic negotiations to end the stalemate. By then, the tide of public opinion had begun to turn against the war and President Lyndon B. Johnson announced that he would not seek reelection in March of that year. The decade ended on a high note, however, when the first manned spacecraft was sent to the moon and Walter Cronkite reported the launch with his infamous, "Go Baby, Go." On July 20, 1969, he shared the moon landing with an awestruck nation in what some called "Walter to Walter" coverage on CBS news. He provided continuous coverage for the almost 30 hours it took Apollo XI to complete its mission.

The 70's brought political scandal and Walter Cronkite reported to the nation with accuracy and balance from June 17, 1972, the morning after the Watergate break-in, through August 8, 1974, when Richard M. Nixon became the first President of the United States to resign from office because of scandal. Walter Cronkite's incredible career included interviews with international heads of state, while keeping the nation informed of world-wide events, as well as audiences with every U.S. president since Harry Truman. He officially retired in 1981, but we are grateful that he continues to work on documentaries and programs for broadcast on PBS and the Discovery and Learning Channels.

The news has become the information tool that informs, stimulates interest, evokes debate, and ultimately protects our democracy. Walter Cronkite's dedication to his professional career is exemplary for its objective reporting, credibility and his trademark delivery that has made an American icon.

President Truman's high regard of Walter Cronkite is reflected best in a letter to Mr. Raymond E. Dix, President of the Ohio Newspaper Association on January 1, 1966.

DEAR MR. DIX: I was glad to have your letter informing me of the contemplated presentation of the Distinguished Service to Journalism Award to Walter Cronkite. I know of no one more worthy of being so honored by a jury of his peers. For one who has had some slight exposure to the press—the spoken and the written—with some misadventures and collisions along the way, I continue to have a healthy respect for that all important free institution.

Here and there, over a span of time, some of the practitioners in that estate manage to rise to a special place of their own and become a force in their own right. Walter Cronkite looms large in that category and I always associate him with the quality of never failing credibility.

Please give Walter my warm personal greetings.

Sincerely yours,

HARRY S TRUMAN.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in warm congratulations to our native son, Walter Cronkite, for receiving the Harry S. Truman Good Neighbor Award for his outstanding contribution to journalism and his "never failing credibility." As a role model, he has inspired individuals like me to fight the good fight for a just cause, secure in the knowledge that armed with the facts and the passion for what is right and just, one can make a difference in the

lives of others. Thank you, Walter Cronkite. And that's the way it is, Mr. Speaker.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent for a vote in this chamber on May 6, 2004. I would like the record to show that, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 152.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN E. PETERSON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, May 6, 2004, I was unavoidably detained and missed House rollcall vote No. 152 on H. Con. Res. 398, a bill expressing the concern of Congress over Iran's development of the means to produce nuclear weapons.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on H. Con. Res. 398, and ask unanimous consent that this be reflected in the appropriate place in the RECORD.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF HOLGATE HIGH SCHOOL'S DIVISION IV STATE MEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Head Coach Paul Wayne and his Holgate men's basketball team on the winning of their first State Championship in high school basketball.

The Holgate High School men's basketball team has worked tirelessly in pursuit of excellence on the basketball court; and

The character and team-oriented attitude found on the Holgate men's basketball team enabled the Tigers to hold their championship game opponents to the lowest score in a state championship game since 1963; and

The Holgate men's basketball team held their tournament opponents to an average of 32 points per game and out-rebounded their championship game opponent 34-16; and

Holgate's State Championship in Division IV high school men's basketball was their first State title and their first state appearance in 51 years.

Mr. Speaker, Holgate High School finished the season with an outstanding 21-6 record, capped by the school's first State Championship in high school men's basketball. They embody all that is good about the young people we have in our great nation and I again congratulate them on an outstanding season on and off the basketball court.

HONORING REPRESENTATIVE
CHARLES I. HUDSON

HON. CHRISTOPHER JOHN

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. JOHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of an extraordinary man who made a tremendous impact on my life and the lives of so many in Louisiana. State Representative Charles "Doc" Hudson, educator, statesman, businessman, husband, parent, pioneer, friend and mentor, passed away May 7, 2004, at the age of 72 in Opelousas, Louisiana.

Dr. Hudson began his life in public service as the first African-American elected to the Opelousas Board of Aldermen, where he served for ten years. He went on to become the first African-American to serve a four-year term as deputy secretary of the Louisiana Department of Transportation and the first African-American mayor pro temp of Opelousas. In 1991, he became the first African-American from St. Landry Parish to be elected to the Louisiana House of Representatives, a position he held until his death.

However, it is impossible to describe Doc by simply enumerating the positions he held. Anyone who knew him knew of his zealous commitment to education. As an accomplished student himself, he valued knowledge more than anything. In 1999, he gained national prominence when he introduced a bill in the Louisiana Legislature requiring students to show respect to teachers and school personnel.

Doc himself was an incredible teacher. Having spent four years serving with him in the Louisiana Legislature, I can personally attest that he was a tremendous mentor for young politicians. He was never too busy to talk to someone, spend time with them, listen to their problems, and give them advice. I could always count on his honest opinion and he always kept his word.

Doc was also a steadfast supporter of his fellow public servants. When I hosted events in his area, Doc was always there; and while he fervently upheld his Democratic ideals, he never had a bad word to say against anyone of a different opinion.

With the passing of Dr. Hudson, Louisiana loses a civil rights pioneer and one of its strongest education advocates. I mourn the loss of my friend and am sorry for the legislators who will not be able to benefit from his guidance and wisdom. To his family, I express my most sincere condolences; and while so many are saddened by this tragic loss, I am confident that southwest Louisiana is a better place to live because of his influence and efforts. He will be remembered fondly by those who knew him.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL
JOHN A. "ANDY" LOVE

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of a truly extraordinary

gentleman, Major General John A. "Andy" Love.

General Love has proudly served the United States and is retiring on May 21, 2004 to civilian life from a stellar 36 year career in the Colorado Air National Guard.

Andy Love earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1967 from Colorado College in Colorado Springs, Colorado in Political Science. After that, Andy joined the Colorado Air National Guard. He did undergraduate work in pilot training at Williams Air Force Base, in Arizona, where he earned his pilots wings and became a Squadron Fighter Pilot who has over 2,500 hours in the F100, A-7 and F-16.

Andy served in many capacities for many years at Buckley Air National Guard Base in Colorado and eventually became the Vice Commander of the 140th Fighter Wing, then on to Deputy Commander for Operations. Soon after that he became the Assistant Adjutant General to the Air National Guard unit at Buckley. In September 2000, Andy became the Assistant to the Commander of Air Force Space Command, which required a move from Buckley to Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado. In April 2003, General Love was promoted to the position from which he now retires as the Assistant, for National Guard Matters, to the Commander of NORAD/USNORTHCOM (North American Aerospace Defense Command/US Northern Command).

Major General Love has much to be proud of in his extensive military career, but also for the many awards and decorations he's received, including: Legion of Merit Award, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Combat Readiness Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Air Force Longevity Service Award, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, Air Force Training Ribbon, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Colorado Meritorious Service Medal, Active Service Ribbon, Foreign Deployment Service Ribbon, Colorado State Emergency Ribbon, Mobilization Support Ribbon, and Colorado Long Service Ribbon.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my fellow colleagues to join me in congratulating Major General John A. "Andy" Love on his successful military career, and thanking him for his years of service to a grateful Nation.

As an alumnus of Colorado State University myself, and now representing CSU in the United States Congress, I have had a determined interest in CSU's mission to benefit our great State. I am proud to know that the tradition and excellence synonymous to Colorado State University will be carried on through the dedicated work of Dr. Larry E. Penley.

TRIBUTE TO MS. PEG BOSTWICK

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the efforts of a constituent in Michigan's Eighth Congressional District, Ms. Peg Bostwick. Ms. Bostwick has served the State of Michigan for the past 15 years as the 404 Federal Program Coordinator for the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). During her time at the Michigan DEQ, Ms. Bostwick has been a tireless

advocate for wetlands protection and funding for wetlands research.

On Thursday, May 20, 2004, Ms. Bostwick will be honored for her work by the Environmental Law Institute as a part of the 2004 Wetlands Awards. As the recipient of the award for State, Tribal and Local Development, Ms. Bostwick is being honored in Washington, DC for the outstanding work she has done on behalf of all of us in Michigan.

Peg Bostwick's work on behalf of the State of Michigan has been extensive. She is a knowledgeable leader on wetlands issues, working to ensure that science and government policy work together to promote a healthy environment. Mr. Speaker, Peg Bostwick has committed herself to bettering Michigan's environment. I can think of no greater compliment to her than to say that Michigan's environment is better off because of her efforts.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, on May 11, 2004, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall votes numbered 153 and 154. Rollcall vote 153 was on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 4299, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 410 South Jackson Road in Edinburg, Texas, as the "Dr. Miguel A. Nevarez Post Office Building." Rollcall vote 154 was on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H. Res. 622, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Peace Officers Memorial Day.

Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes numbered 153 and 154.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF OTTAWA-GLANDORF HIGH SCHOOL'S DIVISION II STATE MEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Head Coach David Sweet and his Ottawa-Glandorf men's basketball team on the winning of their first State Championship in high school basketball.

The Ottawa-Glandorf High School men's basketball team has worked tirelessly in pursuit of excellence on the basketball court.

The character and team-oriented attitude found on the Ottawa-Glandorf men's basketball team helped the Titans to win the state tournament final over a team with only one season loss.

The Ottawa-Glandorf Titans out-rebounded their opponents 45-25 and defeated them by 33 points in the state title game.

Mr. Speaker, Ottawa-Glandorf's State Championship in Division II high school men's basketball was a school-record twenty-seventh season victory and was their eighteenth consecutive victory.

The Ottawa-Glandorf High School finished the season with an outstanding 27–1 record, capped by the school's first State Championship in high school men's basketball. They embody everything that is good about our young people and I commend them on their outstanding performance on and off the basketball court this year.

HONORING JOHN E. DAILEY

HON. CHRISTOPHER JOHN

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. JOHN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an outstanding individual who has dedicated 40 years of his life to educating young people in Southwest Louisiana. At the end of this academic year, Mr. John E. Dailey will retire as principal of Notre Dame High School of Acadia Parish, my alma mater.

Mr. Dailey began his career in education at Notre Dame in 1964 and remained there until 1970 when he moved to Iota High School. During his time at Iota, Mr. Dailey was twice named Teacher and Coach of the Year, was a runner up in the Louisiana Principal of the Year process and oversaw vast improvements in the school's academic and athletic programs.

After over 20 years at Iota, Mr. Dailey returned to Notre Dame High School, where he would remain until his retirement this year. During his second tour at Notre Dame, Mr. Dailey oversaw a significant increase in enrollment, the addition of twelve classrooms, the implementation of an Agriscience Program, a rise in ACT scores to well above the national average, and nine State athletic championships and eight second place finishes. Mr. Dailey was also honored as the Administrator of the Year in the Diocese of Lafayette and recently inducted into the Notre Dame High School Shoe of Fame.

I rise today to honor Mr. Dailey because it is men and women like him that willingly take on the overwhelming job of preparing our youth for their entry into the professional world. Since 1964, Mr. Dailey has been making a difference in the lives of young people and Acadiana is grateful to all of the work that he has done. I know I am joined by many others when I tell Mr. Dailey congratulations and thank you.

COLORADO GREEN WINDFARM IN
LAMAR

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, wind energy is an inexhaustible, affordable and economically beneficial source of electricity, and is the Nation's fastest-growing new source of power. I am proud to salute the dedication on May 14 of the Colorado Green windfarm in Prowers County, near Lamar, in southeast Colorado. This dedication will take place in conjunction with Lamar's 118th birthday celebration, to be held on Saturday and Sunday,

May 14 and 15, with the theme of "Winds of Progress Powering Our Future." The celebration is being sponsored by Lamar Chamber of Commerce, City of Lamar, Prowers County, Prowers County Development, Inc. and local business owners.

At 162 megawatts, Colorado Green is the Nation's fifth-largest windfarm, and provides enough power for approximately 52,000 homes at a price competitive with conventional fuels. The project was developed by GE Wind Energy and is co-owned by PPM Energy and Shell WindEnergy, which sell the wind power to Xcel Energy. It is the largest capital investment ever made in Prowers County, and it has already begun generating tremendous local economic benefits throughout the neighboring communities of Lamar and Springfield.

The economic benefits of the Colorado Green wind project include the creation of 10–15 new well-paying jobs at the site. During the height of construction, nearly 400 workers were employed, and these workers provided a sizable economic boost to local Lamar and Springfield businesses. For example, local motels had much higher occupancy than normal, and local restaurants and business experienced an upsurge of demand. The Texaco Food Mart in Lamar had to "bring in more help" in the early morning to deal with the added demand, and the Hay Stack Restaurant reported a 30 percent increase in business due to the windfarm construction.

I am inserting an article from the Lamar Daily News of October 29, 2003 that provides a first-hand illustration of the tremendous benefits that the Colorado Green wind project has brought to Lamar and the Prowers County area. This article, by reporter Virgil Cochran, shows the many economic benefits that wind development can bring to rural parts of our country.

With so much of rural America suffering economic doldrums, wind energy has helped Lamar regain its footing, and I look forward to more such development throughout rural Colorado—which has the nation's 11th-best wind energy resource—in the coming years.

Besides the formal dedication of the Colorado Green wind project on May 14, other activities scheduled in conjunction with Lamar's "Winds of Progress Powering Our Future" activities that weekend include a parade featuring a 113-foot GE wind turbine and free guided bus tours to see the new windfarm. There will also be a 5K Walk and Run, Antique Car and Truck Show, Ducky Derby, "Good Morning Lamar!" breakfast and a "Rock the Block" dance.

I congratulate Lamar as it dedicates the Colorado Green wind project and celebrates its 118th birthday on May 14 and 15.

[From the Lamar Daily News, Oct. 29, 2003]

WIND FARM CONSTRUCTION AN ECONOMIC BOON
FOR COUNTY

(By Virgil Cochran)

LAMAR.—The Colorado Green Wind Farm now under construction in south central Prowers County has already had a strong economic impact to the area—helping at least some local businesses offset slow sales blamed on a drought and generally sluggish economy. The giant project, the largest single capital investment in the history of Prowers County, will also continue to benefit the county for decades, boosting the property tax base and adding some 12–15 new jobs.

For one couple, David and Aracelli Fernandez, who live near the former Pleas-

ant Heights Church, just a stone's throw down the road from the project, the boom has already hit. David and Aracelli are producing burritos about as fast as they can make them and running two daily routes to provide the 200 to 300 workers on the job with some tasty nourishment.

"We'd starve to death if it weren't for that lady (Aracelli)," joked Chad-o Miller, a foreman with QCI erectors, which is installing the nearly 300-foot-tall turbines. Miller also predicted the workmen on the job will be sorely missed by the local grocery stores, motels, and restaurants when the project is complete.

David Fernandez told the Daily News Friday he and his wife have been selling an average of 400 burritos per day at \$2 each. When we met up with Fernandez around noon Friday, he had three oversize coolers in the back of his pickup which he uses to keep the burritos warm, but all were empty. David had sold his load of burritos for the day, and was attempting a rendezvous with Aracelli to transfer some from her vehicle. It was essentially, a startup business for the Fernandez's, triggered solely by the wind farm.

"Most of our guys stay with Brad the Limo man," Miller said, referring to Brad Semmens of Country Acres Motel and RV Park. "We've been filling up his motel and RV Park and he's been great to us." And Semmens is far from the only motel owner in the area to benefit from the influx of construction workers.

Kenny Buxton of Wallace Gas and Oil said the project has also created a temporary boom in fuel and related sales, offsetting what was otherwise very sluggish business due to the downturn in agriculture. Buxton has been running fuel delivery trucks to the site for weeks, providing fuel and lubricants for dozens of vehicles and pieces of heavy equipment at the site.

It sometimes requires two truckloads per day to meet demand, Buxton said, noting there are all sorts of excavating equipment and specialized machinery from cranes to forklifts to which he supplies fuel. Since it is impractical to move the machinery to a fuel station, the construction companies rely almost completely on bulk fuel delivery to the site.

Sales tax receipts in the city have been on the slide for something over a year, running at times ten percent or more behind receipts for the same month of the previous year. But the most recent month for which sales tax data are available, the same month construction moved into full swing on the wind farm, shows sales tax receipts are up over 13 percent from the same month a year ago. While it is impossible to determine how much of that is attributable to the wind farm, many think the boom in local sales can be linked largely to the project.

Once the project is complete and is producing power, the property tax benefits will roll on for at least three decades. Although figures are only preliminary guesstimates, County Assessor Andy Wyatt projects it will produce around \$764,000 per year in new revenue to the county, another \$917,000 to the Re-2 School District general fund, \$203,900 to the Re-2 bond fund, and some \$189,000 to Prowers Medical Center.

Exactly how that will shake out is uncertain for several reasons, said Wyatt. First, the local mill levy to fund Re-2 is governed largely at the state level because of an equalization program in state education funding. It will, at least to some extent, lower the local mill levy taxpayers pay to fund schools, but the amount of reduction hasn't been determined.

Some of the funds the county collects could be limited as well, Wyatt said, because

the county is subject to the Arveschoug-Bird Amendment which limits revenue increases to about 6 percent per year. But because much of the increase in the county's assessed valuation is from new construction, Wyatt said the county may have the option of keeping most of the money.

What the Prowers County Commissioners will decide to do with the approximately three-quarter of a million dollar annual tax windfall is not certain, but Wyatt said he thinks some of it should go to property tax relief by reducing of the mill levy for all taxpayers. He says that would help out businesses like Neoplan, making them more competitive. Since the wind farm is not located within Lamar City limits, however, the city will see little, if any direct benefit from property tax revenues.

What Wyatt calls the "windfarm windfall" won't take effect for another year, the beginning of 2005, but over the long haul, the \$760,000 per year in property taxes paid to the county alone would inject some \$22.9 million into the local economy over a 30-year period if the commissioners chose to collect all the new money and not reduce the property tax levy. Wyatt said property like the wind farm is assessed at the state level, and uses a formula which assures that renewable energy projects are taxed at the same rate of investment that would be spent on conventional power plants. Thus even though the wind farm sold for over \$200 million, the state formula means it will be assessed at an approximately \$100 million in actual value.

But that isn't the end of it. Construction is now under way on another major electrical power-related project about ten miles northeast of Lamar. Xcel Energy is installing an AC-DC power converter that will link electrical grids—a project estimated to be worth at least \$25 million.

Wyatt estimates the county will net another \$189,000 from the substation, while Re-2 will see tax revenue increases of \$226,000 to its general fund and \$50,000 to its bond repayment fund. PMC would net about \$47,000. All those figures are, of course based on present mill levies, but could vary.

An engineer at the substation project north of Lamar said yesterday that the project is being built by a consortium of two companies, Beta Engineering of Pineville, Louisiana, and Siemens Transmission and Distribution of Raleigh, North Carolina. He said the project is expected to continue for about a year, and when complete, will link two of the nation's major power grids, converting electrical power from alternating to direct current, then back to alternating again. In the process, the station will also convert power from 230,000 volts to 345,000 volts so the power can be routed into long-distance transmission lines.

The project was mobilized about a week ago, and a subcontractor on the job, Cajun Construction of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, is already on the job beginning preliminary concrete work.

In addition to local job opportunities and increased sales by local businesses the projects have created and will continue to create, the two projects combined will provide an estimated \$79 million in property tax receipts over a 30-year period, according to Wyatt's figures.

The project also paved the way for Lamar Light and Power and the Arkansas River Power Authority to own wind farms of its own. G.E. does not ordinarily sell only a handful of its 1.5 megawatt turbines—the largest in the wind power business—because of complications and expense with maintenance and warranties of the equipment. But since the wind farm was only a few miles down the road, ARPA and Lamar were able to capitalize on the event, along with 40-year

lows in bond market interest, to install windfarms in Lamar and Springfield.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on the legislative day of Thursday, May 6, 2004, the House had a vote on H. Res. 402, a resolution urging the Lao People's Democratic Republic to provide unrestricted access to Laos for international election monitors and humanitarian aid workers. On House rollcall vote #149, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING ROSE LAMBERT, CHIEF AIDE TO SUPERVISOR HYLAND

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Rose Lambert for over 16 years of dedicated service to the Mount Vernon community.

Ms. Lambert has been a pivotal member of the Mount Vernon community for many years, both as an employee of the Mount Vernon District Supervisor and as an active citizen in her neighborhood. Until recently, Rose lived in the Mount Zephyr community where she was active in the Citizens' Association, acting as president a number of times.

In the Mount Vernon District Supervisor's Office, Ms. Lambert has played an important role in a number of high-profile issues, including the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Improvement Study, Richmond Highway Revitalization efforts, and recently, the campaign to save Mount Vernon Hospital.

Ms. Lambert is most well-known in the northern areas of the Mount Vernon District where she has worked tirelessly on many significant projects. She has been instrumental in the successful completion of many community improvement projects, including the Huntington, Mount Zephyr, Fairhaven, and New Alexandria communities. Ms. Lambert continues to push for projects that will improve the quality of life for Mount Vernon citizens.

As Hyland's Chief Aide, Ms. Lambert has been the lead point of contact for county staff, and has had the responsibility of attending the Board of Supervisors meeting in Fairfax. Furthermore, she has represented Supervisor Hyland at countless meetings and has played an active role in the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Ms. Lambert for 16 years of service to Mount Vernon District. Her contributions and efforts are much appreciated and will be greatly missed. Her service is an exemplary example of an ideal citizen and model employee. I wish her the best of luck in all future endeavors.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF
BLAKE KLINKSIEK ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
ACADEMY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Blake Klinksiek of Perrysburg, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Air Force Academy.

Mr. Speaker, Blake's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Air Force Academy with the incoming cadet class of 2008. Attending one of our nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Blake brings a special mix of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class of Air Force cadets. While attending Perrysburg High School, Blake has attained a grade point average of 3.308, which ranks 121st out of the 334 students in his class. During his time at Perrysburg High School, Blake has received several commendations for his superior scholastic efforts. During his first year, Blake was named to the Honor Roll and received High honors recognition due to his GPA of 3.9. His second year was again marked by his being named to the Honor Roll and receiving yet another Outstanding Academic Achievement Award. Blake was named a "Who's Who Among American High School Students" and maintained a high level of achievement throughout his tenure at Perrysburg High School.

Outside the classroom, Blake has distinguished himself as an excellent student-athlete and dedicated citizen of Perrysburg, Ohio. On the fields of friendly strife, Blake has participated in Varsity Track and Football. He was Captain of the football team as a sophomore and has lettered multiple times in track. In addition to his athletic accomplishments, Blake is an active member in his community by participating in Young Life, was a Youth Football Camp and YMCA Youth Camp counselor, and was an English interpreter for a visiting Spanish student.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Blake Klinksiek. Our service academies offer the finest education and military training available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Blake will do very well during his career at Air Force and I wish him the very best in all of his future endeavors.

HONORING SHIRLEY COPELAND

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor a constituent of

mine who received the 2004 Safety Education Hero Award from the Home Safety Council. Shirley Copeland, a safety educator from Alachua County, Florida, is this year's hero. The Safety Education Hero Award recognizes excellence in home safety education each year, and is presented for fire safety education that saves a life or avoids a disaster. The Home Safety Council in partnership with the Congressional Fire Services Institute (CFSI) and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) sponsor this distinction. Copeland conducted a fire safety lesson with the children at Terwilliger Elementary School as part of the Alachua County Fire Department's 2003 Fire Prevention Month outreach program. She used NFPA's Fire Prevention Week (FPW) campaign materials, "When Fire Strikes: Get Out! Stay Out!" During her presentation, Copeland explained the importance creating and practicing a family home fire escape plan, with an emphasis on conducting nighttime fire drills. Students received fire escape worksheets, which they took home to complete with their families.

Copeland's lessons made quite an impression on Paul Jones (age 11) and Paige Jones (age 10) who immediately shared Copeland's information with their mother. The family discussed the steps of their fire escape plan, including quickly exiting the home, calling 9-1-1 from a neighbor's home and meeting at a designated area. Remembering Copeland's message about the importance of nighttime fire drills, the siblings asked their mother to awaken them in the middle of the night to put their home fire escape plan into action.

Less than a month later on December 6, 2003, the family's preparation was put to the test. In the middle of the night as the family slept, sparks from the fireplace ignited a piece of furniture. Following the family's rehearsed escape plan, they swiftly fled to a neighbor's home, met at their designated meeting spot and dialed 9-1-1.

Brenda Proctor now attributes her family's safe escape to Shirley Copeland's informative and memorable teachings. Learning of the incident, Copeland visited the family at their temporary home where she made sure they had working smoke alarms and a new fire escape plan. Mr. Speaker, Ms. Copeland received the 2004 Safety Education Hero Award on May 5, 2004 from the Home Safety Council during the annual CFSI National Fire and Emergency Services Banquet here in Washington, DC. I had the honor of meeting Ms. Copeland and am proud that this hero will continue to work and promote fire safety in the 6th District of Florida.

C. DAVID SMITH, 2004 FAMILY
PHYSICIAN OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. JEFF MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Doctor C. David Smith for receiving the honor as Florida's 2004 Family Physician of the Year.

Dr. Smith has an extraordinary beginning to his career. He graduated second in his class from the University of Florida medical school in 1979. With a promising career in medicine,

he began his residency at the University of South Alabama. However, in 1980 with not even a year of residency under his belt, he received word that his hometown hospital in Jay, Florida would close due to the lack of physician manpower and financial resources. Dr. David Smith followed his love of medicine and people and relocated back to his hometown, insuring that the hospital would continue to serve his neighbors in the rural community of less than 600.

During his 23-year tenure, Dr. Smith serves patients from his community and the surrounding area in his private practice, the emergency room, acute care center, hospital and nursing home. He is also the team physician for the local high school football team and even has time to make house calls.

Among his supporters, his patients offer the most passionate tributes. A community citizen whose family was comforted by Dr. Smith noted, "The community is blessed to have this man among us. If we could have a statue in Jay of a hero, it would be Dr. David Smith, physician extraordinaire, humanitarian by gift of God, and our beloved rural doctor."

Thanks to his leadership, intellect, and altruistic character, he revived the medical community and put rural hospital care in the medical spotlight. Jay Hospital and Northwest Florida communities are very fortunate to have such a distinguished family physician who has a genuine concern for people.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to congratulate and offer my sincere appreciation to Dr. C. David Smith for his service in the communities of Northwest Florida.

HONORING LIEUTENANT GENERAL
PARKS' "GOLD LINE"

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Lieutenant General Garry L. Parks, the Deputy Commandant, Manpower and Reserve Affairs, soon to retire and return to private life after more than 35 years of proud service as a United States Marine. The departure of General Parks marks not merely the end of an illustrious career replete with many honors; it also marks the beginning of several initiatives that, by virtue of his strategic vision, will ensure the continued success of the Marine Corps into the 21st century.

A native of Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, General Parks graduated from the Citadel with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1969.

After completing The Basic School, he was assigned to the 1st Marine Division in the Republic of Vietnam, where he served with distinction in a variety of positions to include platoon commander and company executive officer with the 1st Reconnaissance Battalion. For his heroism under fire, General Parks was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V". Next, General Parks served as a company commander with 2d Battalion, 3d Marines. General Parks' later assignments include Company Commander, Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, South Carolina; the Infantry Officers Advanced Course, Fort

Benning, Georgia, where he graduated on the Commandant's List; and company commander, 2d Battalion, 9th Marines, Okinawa, Japan.

General Parks was an honor graduate at Marine Corps Command and Staff College; Commanding Officer, Recruiting Station, Raleigh, North Carolina; and the Joint Program and Budget Coordination Officer in the Requirements and Programs Division, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps.

While assigned to the First Marine Division, General Parks served as Executive Officer, 5th Marines; Commanding officer, 2d Battalion, 5th Marines; and Commanding Officer, 9th Marines. While serving as Chief of Staff, Marine Forces Pacific, he was selected to Brigadier General. He next served as Commanding General, Marine Corps Recruit Depot/Western Recruiting Region; Deputy Director for Politico-Military Affairs on the Joint Staff; and Commanding General, Marine Corps Recruiting Command.

General Parks will continue to serve as the Deputy Commandant, Manpower and Reserve Affairs until his retirement in June 2004. While serving in this position he devoted his enormous personal energy into implementing manpower programs and policies to ensure the operating forces had the Marine Corps manpower required to succeed in Operation Enduring Freedom I and II, and Operation Iraqi Freedom I and II and to also ensure that Marine families had the support they required during these most challenging times.

Throughout his career as a United States Marine, General Parks demonstrated uncompromising character, and a sincere, selfless sense of duty to his beloved Marine Corps and to the Nation. His powerful leadership inspired Marines to tremendous success no matter the task, and achieved results that will guarantee the United States' security into the future.

On behalf of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, I would like to recognize General Parks' extraordinary accomplishments and his devoted service to the Nation. Congratulations to him, his wife Earlene, son Garry, and daughter Tammy on the completion of a long and distinguished career.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF DR.
ROBERT MARTIN AND HIS INAUGURAL LEADERSHIP LECTURE
AT THE HAYES PRESIDENTIAL
CENTER

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding man, Dr. Robert Martin. This Friday, May 14, Dr. Martin will offer the first lecture at the Hayes Presidential Center's first annual "Hayes Lecture on Leadership." This is a momentous occasion and an exciting time at the Hayes Presidential Center, which was the first Presidential library in the United States.

In June 2001, Dr. Robert Sidney Martin was nominated by the President of the United States to be Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS); the U.S. Senate subsequently confirmed his nomination

by unanimous consent. Dr. Martin is the first librarian to lead IMLS, formed in 1996.

Under Dr. Martin's leadership, IMLS launched a new grant program to recruit and educate the next generation of librarians. The program, announced by Mrs. Bush in January 2002, seeks to off-set a pending national shortage of librarians due to retirements. Dr. Martin acted as co-host to Mrs. Bush for two seminal White House conferences, one on school libraries and the other on libraries, museums, and lifelong learning. In 2004, Dr. Martin will make the inaugural grants for "Museums for America," to sustain heritage, support lifelong learning, and provide centers for community engagement.

A librarian, archivist, educator, and administrator, Dr. Martin was Professor and Interim Director of the School of Library and Information Studies at Texas Women's University prior to his appointment at IMLS. From 1995 to 1999, he was Director and Librarian of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

From 1985 until 1995, Dr. Martin was Associate Dean of Libraries for Special Collections at Louisiana State University. Before that, he worked in the archives and special collections at the University of Texas at Arlington and the University of Texas at Austin. He also taught at the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

He has authored and co-authored several scholarly treatises including two best-selling books, *Maps of Texas and the Southwest, 1513-1900* (1984, 1999) and *Contours of Discovery: Printed Maps Delineating the Texas and Southwestern Chapters of the Cartographic History of North America, 1513-1930* (1982). The books reflect another area of Dr. Martin's research interests and expertise: the history of the American southwest.

Dr. Martin has a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Library Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, a Masters of Library Science from the University of North Texas, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from Rice University.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to Dr. Robert Martin. Our Nation is served well by having such honorable and giving citizens, like Dr. Martin, who care about their well being and stability. We wish Dr. Martin well as he inaugurates the Hayes Presidential Center's first annual "Hayes Lecture on Leadership."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, due to an event in my Congressional District I was unable to vote on the following two bills:

Rollcall vote No. 151—H. Con. Res. 326, expressing the sense of Congress regarding the arbitrary detention of Dr. Wang Bingzhang by the Government of the People's Republic of China and urging his immediate release; and Rollcall vote No. 152—H. Con. Res. 398, expressing the concern of Congress over Iran's development of the means to produce nuclear weapons.

I support each of these resolutions and would have voted "Yea" for both had I been

present. I ask unanimous consent that my statement be inserted into the RECORD at the appropriate place.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK GREEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, due to weather related flight delays, I was absent for votes on Tuesday, May 11, 2004. As a result, I was not recorded for rollcall votes Nos. 153, 154 and 155. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 153, "aye" on No. 154 and "aye" on No. 155.

TRIBUTE TO WEST POINT'S SERVICE AMERICA PROGRAM

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, recently I had the honor of visiting with the Corps of Cadets, faculty, and staff at the United States Military Academy. I am very grateful to Lieutenant General William Lennox, Jr., Superintendent; Colonel Russell Howard, Social Sciences Department Head; Colonel Robert Gordon III, Director, American Politics Program; and, of course, to the Cadets for having me.

In addition to being able to visit with cadets and their world-class faculty, I had the opportunity to learn of West Point's Service America Program. Serving one's nation can take many forms. I found it especially inspiring that as the West Point cadets, America's sons and daughters, are preparing to defend our freedoms, they have created still another way to serve our great nation.

Under the leadership of Colonel Gordon and many others, since 1997, cadets have been serving young people during the summer months through the Academy's Service America Program in Bremerton and Spokane, Washington; Chicago, Illinois; and Austin, Texas. The cadets have partnered with state and local AmeriCorps programs, America's Promise, the National Civilian Community Corps, and private foundations.

In the past six years, 161 cadets have participated in West Point's Service America Program. The cadets have spent almost 8,000 hours teaching children in the classroom and have tutored or mentored over 1,000 youngsters. Their total community service exceeds 20,000 volunteer hours. Cadets say Service America helps prepare them to become better officers. Cadets are refining their leadership skills through positions of authority in community projects, are working cooperatively with AmeriCorps volunteers in solving problems, and are mentoring young persons from diverse backgrounds and ages.

Mr. Speaker, I commend West Point and the cadets for their selfless service to our country, both on and off the battlefield. I knew that West Point was a national treasure long before I visited there. Now more than ever, I know why.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF NATALIE PHILLIPS ON HER APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding young woman from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Natalie Phillips of Northwood, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Air Force Academy.

Mr. Speaker, Natalie's offer of appointment poises her to attend the United States Air Force Academy with the incoming cadet class of 2008. Attending one of our nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education, and demands the very best that these young women and men have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Natalie brings a special mix of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class of Air Force Academy cadets. While attending Northwood High School, Natalie has attained a grade point average of 3.94, which ranks 2nd out of the 80 students in her class. During her time at Northwood High School, Natalie has received several commendations for her superior scholastic efforts. During her first year, Natalie was named to the High Honor Roll and received the Outstanding Academic Achievement Award. Her second year was again marked by her being named to the High Honor Roll along with being named a "Who's Who Among American High School Students." Natalie has maintained this high level of achievement throughout her tenure at Northwood High School.

Outside the classroom, Natalie has distinguished herself as an excellent student-athlete and dedicated citizen of Northwood, Ohio. Natalie has been very active on the Northwood High School Varsity golf team. She has served as team captain and has lettered multiple times. In addition to her athletic accomplishments, Natalie is an active member in her community by participating in the Spanish Club, Key Club and Student Council.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Natalie Phillips. Our service academies offer the finest education and military training available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Natalie will do very well during her career at the Air Force Academy and I wish her the very best in all of her future endeavors.

IN TRIBUTE TO JACK BROOME
AND JOHN W. BORCHARD, JR.

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to Jack Broome and John W. Borchard, Jr., the first recipients of the Catherine McAuley Lifetime Achievement Award presented by St. John's Regional Medical Center

in Oxnard, California, and St. John's Pleasant Valley Hospital in Camarillo, California.

Catherine McAuley founded Sisters of Mercy in Dublin, Ireland, in the early 1800s, serving those who suffered from poverty, illness and a lack of education. In 1912, a small band of Sisters of Mercy began caring for the sick and suffering in Ventura County, California.

St. John's Regional Medical Center and St. John's Pleasant Valley Hospital are the modern-day manifestations of those early seeds.

The Catherine McAuley Lifetime Achievement Award pays tribute to members of the community for their contributions and volunteerism, commitment to society, and espousal of the charisma and values exemplified by Catherine McAuley.

Jack Broome and John W. Borchard, Jr., epitomize that charisma and those values.

Jack Broome was born in Chicago, but came to California early in his adult life to pursue farming opportunities in Ventura, Kern and Monterey counties. He is one of the key founders of Casa Pacifica and continues as a director. Jack currently serves on the University Board at Pepperdine University and the Board of Trustees of the House Ear Institute. He is chairman of the Ventura County Harbor Commission and the Pleasant Valley County Water District.

Jack's service to St. John's includes chairmanship of St. John's Regional Medical Center Foundation, director of the hospital board and longtime membership in The Humanitarians. He and his wife, Patricia, have three children and eight grandchildren.

John W. Borchard, Jr., was born at St. John's Hospital and raised on an Oxnard farm owned by his family in the 1860s. He left Ventura County long enough to graduate from the University of Notre Dame and serve a short stint at Eastman Kodak in New York before returning to his roots. John has had leadership roles on boards and committees of no less than 25 organizations. He served the Oxnard Elementary and High Schools, the City of Oxnard, the Oxnard Elks, lima bean and citrus cooperatives, and for 20 years served as a director on the Ventura County Farm Bureau. After 16 years, he recently retired his post as chairman of the Saticoy Lemon Association. During that time he also served on the Sunkist Growers, Inc., board, including 9 years on its executive board.

John has also served on the boards of St. John's Seminary and Seminary College in Camarillo.

John's service to St. John's began early, knocking on doors with his parents to raise money for the building. In 1968 he became a Humanitarian and served 7 years as chairman. He served as a trustee of St. John's Regional Medical Center Foundation through two building campaigns.

John and his wife, Nancy, have six children and 11 grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in congratulating Jack Broome and John W. Borchard, Jr., for earning this prestigious distinction and join the Foundations of St. John's Regional Medical Center and St. John's Pleasant Valley Hospital in honoring them for a lifetime of service to their community.

CONGRATULATING TOM KEATING ON BEING NAMED THE MINNESOTA TEACHER OF THE YEAR FOR 2004

HON. MARK. R. KENNEDY

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Tom Keating on being named the Minnesota Teacher of the Year for 2004. He received this award at a ceremony on Sunday, May 2, 2004, in front of his wife, Mary Sue, also a teacher, their four children and his friends and colleagues. This year, there were a record 150 nominees for the award, and Keating was selected from among 10 finalists.

Born in Minneapolis, he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in health and physical education from St. Cloud State University. He began his teaching career at Foley High School in 1971. In 1982, he joined the Monticello public schools teaching a variety of subjects. He has also developed his own programs, including S.U.P.E.R. (Students Using Peers to Educate Responsibly) and the school's youth service program. In 1990, he went back to school himself and received his M.A. in curriculum and instruction from the University of St. Thomas. He is now a multi-subject teacher at the Turning Point Alternative School in Monticello.

Mr. Speaker, it is teachers like Tom Keating that embody the commitment to students that all teachers strive to possess. His hard work and dedication to his students and his support for children that, in his words, are in danger of falling away, are just two of the reasons he deserved this important honor. I join his colleagues, friends, students, and all Minnesotans in congratulating him on his achievements.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF ROBERT PRUITTE

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the late Robert Pruitte, a good friend who always gave me useful advice. The Wilson County, Tennessee, resident was a pillar of strength in his community and an admired activist in the Democratic Party.

In honor of Robert and all he did for his community, the Wilson County Democratic Party is instituting an annual event in his memory called the "Robert Pruitte Democratic Celebration." The event will be used to raise funds for a scholarship in his name and to promote the Democratic Party. Robert would have been proud to know his name was associated with giving deserving children an opportunity to excel in higher education.

Robert worked four decades for TRW and was an international representative for the United Auto Workers. He worked hard for his company, the union he represented and the family he loved. And he was always willing to give time of himself to promote worthy causes in his community.

Robert was an honorable man with impeccable character and a thirst for life. He is sorely missed by all those who knew him. But his legacy will live on through this newly created event that aims to help children get a quality education and allow others to share in his political philosophy. Robert was truly the epitome of decency and dedication.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF CRAIG BAER ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Craig Baer of Middle Point, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Mr. Speaker, Craig's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point with the incoming cadet class of 2008. Attending one of our nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Craig brings a special mix of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class of West Point cadets. While attending Lincolnview High School, Craig has attained a weighted grade point average of 4.021, which ranks 9th out of the 61 students in his class. During his time at Lincolnview High School, Craig has received several commendations for his superior scholastic efforts. During his first year, Craig was named to the Gold Honor Roll and received the World History GPA Award. His second year was again marked by his being named to the Gold Honor Roll along with being named a Northwest Conference Scholar athlete. Craig has maintained this high level of achievement throughout his tenure at Lincolnview High School.

Outside the classroom, Craig has distinguished himself as an excellent student-athlete and dedicated citizen of Middle Point, Ohio. On the fields of friendly strife, Craig has participated in Cross Country, Track and Basketball. He was Captain of the Basketball team as a freshman and has lettered in Track and Cross Country. In addition to his athletic accomplishments, Craig is an active member in his community by participating in Spanish Club, Student Council, was elected Junior Class President, and was named to the National Honor Society.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Craig Baer. Our service academies offer the finest education and military training available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Craig will do very well during his career at West Point and I wish him the very best in all of his future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO MAGGIE STEWART
FOR 50 YEARS OF COMMUNITY
SERVICE

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure today to pay tribute to a dear friend, Margaret Stewart of Upland, California, who has spent more than 50 years improving the lives of everyone around her as a selfless volunteer and inspirational community activist in San Bernardino County.

Born and raised in Ontario, CA, Margaret married citrus rancher Walter E. Stewart, and raised three daughters in and near their hometown. She began her civic volunteering in 1949 with the Upland Junior Welfare League, and has been seemingly working harder every year since that time.

Maggie Stewart got her start in local politics in 1950, when she and Walt chartered the Chaffey District Young Republicans. That same year, they helped organize a sewer bond election, and two years later she helped organize a door-to-door campaign for a school bond election. Since that time, she has served as a campaign worker every 2 years for candidates for mayor, Assembly, Congress, governor and president.

Her stature within our local Republican Party has grown to such an extent that she is often identified as the driving force in keeping the party growing and strong. She has been a member of the California State central committee since 1980 and served twice as the chairman of the county Republican Party. She has been president of the local Republican Women and has served as a Regent for the National Federation of Republican Women. And she was a delegate to three Republican National Conventions.

Maggie has also spent nearly 50 years working with the Girl Scouts, representing U.S. Scouts in New Zealand, serving as Girl Scout Council president serving 26,000 Scouts, and organizing a national conference to help scouts learn public relations. She has been almost as active in the Parent-Teacher Association, serving as local president and in many other roles. The West End United Way presented Maggie with its leadership award for more than two decades of service in a variety of top positions.

Mr. Speaker, as you can imagine, Maggie Stewart's awards and public recognition are numerous and substantial. She has been Scout of the Year, Woman of the Year, Senior Citizen of the Year, and a Woman Achiever. She received many justly deserved awards in 1983 for co-chairing the year-and-a-half-long Centennial Celebration for the City of Ontario. For her latest tribute, she will be honored for 30 years of service to the San Antonio Community Hospital Auxiliary.

There is little doubt, Mr. Speaker, that Maggie Stewart is the epitome of social service and volunteer activism. She has registered thousands of new voters, contributed many thousands of hours of time, and helped create a real spirit of community in one of the fastest-growing areas of our nation. Please join me in saluting Maggie Stewart for her years of service, and wishing her well in all of her future endeavors.

HONORING TIMOTHY M. VETERE
OF MORGANTOWN, WEST VIRGINIA

HON. ALAN B. MOLLOHAN

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. MOLLOHAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate Mr. Timothy M. Vetere of Morgantown, West Virginia for his award-winning entry in the Veterans of Foreign Wars' Voice of Democracy contest. His script is entitled "My Commitment to America's Future." I submit for the RECORD the text of his entry and commend the VFW for making the Voice of Democracy scholarship program available to students across our Nation.

MY COMMITMENT TO AMERICA'S FUTURE

I was walking along the sidewalk downtown one day and I passed by a large storefront window and caught a quick glimpse of myself. I have to admit that the first thing I thought was, "Hey, I look pretty good." I even stopped to take a second look. And as I stared into my gorgeous baby-blue eyes, I began to realize that my reflection was superimposed on an American flag, which was hanging in the display case.

As I looked closer, I realized that the edges were frayed and its colors faded and I thought, hmmm, I wonder how it got that worn? What stories would it have to tell if it could talk?

I began to envision it in battle somewhere or draping the coffin of a Vietnam War veteran, or, it looked pretty old, maybe even a World War II veteran. What if someone's grandfather had passed it down to his son and that man passed it to his son who was now honoring the memory of his grandpa by hanging that flag in his storefront window. Or did this flag fly outside of an elementary school where children of the SOs lined up in the courtyard to pledge their allegiance to the flag and sing "My Country 'Tis of Thee."

My eyes drifted to the 50 stars and I began to realize how hard each state must have fought to gain a spot on this symbol of American Unity.

As a person, I'm one among millions, but as an American I am an integral part of the greatest nation on earth. The stripes of the flag represent the purity in the American heart and sacrifices made by men just like me. I look back on the giants of history and feel my own insignificance. I am humbled knowing my own inability to measure up to their achievements.

I may never command American men in battle on foreign soil and, I pray to God I never command them on American soil. I may never land on the moon. I may never discover a cure for cancer. My name may never be used to inspire school-children to greater heights.

I may do nothing more than mean it when I say the pledge, sing the words of the National Anthem at a ball game, or feel the country's collective sadness when a soldier's flag-draped coffin is shown on the evening news.

But when I say the pledge maybe one other of my classmates may see my sincerity and share in it as well. When I sing the anthem at a ball game, those around me may hear the words clearly and be inspired to believe in the power behind the lyrics.

I may never become a giant in American history, but if I can in some small way influence others to feel the love I feel for America . . . if I can live my life as an example of heartfelt patriotism . . .

If I can raise my children with strong American values, then I will have made

America stronger. When you are the one looking at your own reflection in a store window, or in a mirror, who will look back at you? Will you be able to say, "Yes, I am an American citizen."

We are all united under the American flag and its symbolic colors. We can be separate individuals or we can work together to make America stronger, one citizen at a time.

REMEMBER AND HONOR LIEUTENANT
COLONEL FRANK H.
SIMONDS, SR., USMC (RET)

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to remember and honor a loyal patriot, neighbor, and friend. Lieutenant Colonel Frank H. Simonds, Sr., USMC (Ret), of Oakton, Virginia. Following a lifetime of dedication and service to his family and our nation, LtCol Simonds passed away on March 31, 2004, at the age of 85.

Frank was born October 1, 1918, in Sparta, Illinois. His parents, Thomas and Zuma Etta Simonds, owned and operated a grocery store while raising a family of six boys and two girls.

Frank attended Sparta Township High School and, in 1941, graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Education.

In August of that same year, he joined the United States Marine Corps. While in service, he flew the SBD, SB2C, F4U, F7F-3N, and the F9F-8P. Stationed in the Pacific Theater during World War II, he flew out of such places as Guadalcanal, Bougainville, and Munda while serving with VMSBs-144/454.

Mr. Speaker, Frank also served in the Korean War with VMF (N)'s-531/513. After the war, he flew VMCJ-3 in the late 1950's. He had over 5,000 flight hours and was the Commanding Officer of VMF (N)-513, VMCJ-3, MCAS-4 and MWSG-27. For his remarkable service to the United States, he received the Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross with Gold Star, and Air Medal with four gold stars before he retired from the Marine Corps in December 1966.

Upon retirement from the Marine Corps, Frank began a career with Control Data Corporation, where he worked from 1966 until his retirement in 1988. At the time of his retirement, he was the Eastern and Southeastern Regional Administration Manager and had enjoyed a 22-year career with the corporation.

He is survived by his lovely wife, Bobbie; his son, Lt. Col. Frank H. Simonds, Jr., USMC; his daughter, Kelley Simonds Hardison; his grandchildren, Michael, Lindsey and Hayley Hardison; his brother, Robert J. Simonds; and his sister, Millicent Simonds Bates.

Mr. Speaker, on a personal note, my family had the great opportunity of becoming acquainted with Frank and Bobbie when we moved to Oakton several years ago. More than just neighbors, they became very close friends. In fact, they even took on a role like unto family, and seemingly helped raise our son and daughter. For the blessing of having them come into our lives, we shall always be grateful.

Today, I join with Frank H. Simonds, Sr.'s family, friends, and community to commemorate his life of hard work, good citizenship, and

family commitment. As his friend and neighbor, I will miss him. Yet, I am confident that Frank today is happy where he is, waiting for the eventual return of his loved ones.

RECOGNIZING CONTRIBUTIONS OF
PEOPLE OF INDIAN ORIGIN TO
UNITED STATES AND BENEFITS
OF WORKING TOGETHER WITH
INDIA

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support much of what H. Con. Res. 352 has to say about the valuable contributions people of Indian origin have made to the United States. As the resolution notes, people of Indian origin have made contributions in a wide variety of disciplines, including science, technology, the arts and public service.

However, I am concerned that H. Con. Res. 352 presents a uniformly positive view of U.S. trade relations with India that is unjustified. While the resolution mentions the export of U.S. goods to India, it fails to acknowledge the rampant export of American jobs to India.

U.S. trade policies, including our policies toward India, have failed American workers. The U.S. has lost millions of high-paying manufacturing jobs. Now, service sector jobs are increasingly shifting overseas. Around 400,000 service jobs, including 27,000 technology jobs, were siphoned off to India, China and other low-wage havens last year.

Morgan Stanley estimates the number of U.S. jobs exported to India will double to about 150,000 in the next three years. A University of California-Berkeley study found U.S. firms exported 30,000 service sector jobs to India while eliminating 226,000 jobs in the U.S.

It's not hard to see why: computer programming jobs in the U.S. that pay \$60,000–\$80,000 a year go for as little as \$8,952 in China, \$5,880 in India, or \$5,000 in Russia.

The U.S. economy will never be on sound footing, and workers will never enjoy job security, as long as Congress and the Administration perpetuate the discredited dogma of “free” trade. The Bush Administration argues in its latest Economic Report of the President that, “When a good or service is produced more cheaply abroad, it makes more sense to import it than make or provide it domestically.” I disagree with the Bush Administration's argument that “it makes more sense” to flood the U.S. market with goods and services from low-wage havens like India just because it's cheaper.

I am disappointed that H. Con. Res. 352 does not present a more balanced view of U.S. trade relations with India.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF
JOSHUA BOWMAN ON HIS AP-
POINTMENT TO ATTEND THE
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
ACADEMY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Joshua Bowman of Crestline, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Air Force Academy.

Mr. Speaker, Joshua's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Air Force Academy with the incoming cadet class of 2008. Attending one of our Nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Joshua brings a special mix of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class of Air Force Academy cadets. While attending Crestline High School, Joshua has attained a grade point average of 4.0, which ranks first out of sixty-two students in his class. During his time at Crestline High School, Joshua has received several commendations for his superior scholastic efforts. During his first year, Joshua was named to the Honor Roll and received an Academic Team Award. His second year was again marked by his being named to the Honor Roll, receiving yet another Academic Team Award and also being named “Bulldog of the Month”. Joshua maintained this high level achievement throughout his tenure at Crestline High School.

Outside the classroom, Joshua has distinguished himself as an excellent student-athlete and dedicated citizen of Crestline, Ohio. On the fields of friendly strife, Joshua has participated in Varsity Cross Country, Varsity Basketball, and Varsity Baseball. He is a four-time Cross Country letter recipient. Joshua also received the “Middle of the Pack” award as well as the “2nd Man Coaches Award” during his participation in athletics at Crestline High School. In addition to his athletic accomplishments, Joshua is an active member in his community by participating in Key Club, National Honor Society, Teen Institute, Church youth group, and a local prayer group.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Joshua Bowman. Our service academies offer the finest education and military training available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Joshua will do very well during his career at Air Force and I wish him the very best in all of his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING ROCKWALL COUNTY
LIBRARY'S READING FOR
ADULTS PROGRAM

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to recognize the Rockwall County Library's Reading for Adults program.

Three years ago, the library began a literacy program to help community adults develop essential skills through reading. The Reading for Adults program is affiliated with the “Dallas Reads” initiative and “Literacy Pro,” a worldwide venture. What started with two students and five tutors has grown into a program that instructs 158 students and relies on the services of 75 volunteer tutors. Classes, which are held at the Rockwall County Library and in nearby Royse City, range from one-on-one instruction to small classes of 15–20 students.

The Reading for Adults program has already been a big success. Students have earned their GED and some have completed citizenship requirements. Students also report that they are able to function more effectively from day to day. For example, after working with tutors, parents can more clearly express their concerns to teachers and doctors. The program offers us a wonderful example of how innovative, caring, and committed people can help positively shape communities throughout America.

The Reading for Adults initiative relies on the generosity of the entire community. The Friends of the Library donate their time and money. The library also organizes an annual Rock and Read event to raise money to buy books and materials. Recently, IBM awarded the library four computers with sound recognition software to help students learn to speak and read. Without these valuable resources, programs like Reading for Adults simply wouldn't exist.

On behalf of the students, tutors, organizers, and community of Rockwall, I want to take this opportunity in the House of Representatives to salute the Reading for Adults program.

INTRODUCING THE MEDICARE
EARLY ACCESS ACT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, in honor of “Cover the Uninsured Week,” I am pleased today to join with my colleague Rep. SHERROD BROWN and more than 80 additional cosponsors in introducing the “Medicare Early Access Act.” This important legislation would provide an affordable health insurance option for the fastest growing segment of the nearly 44 million uninsured Americans—those ages 55–64.

In 2002, 43.6 million Americans were uninsured. There are many approaches to how we should address this growing problem. As most of my colleagues know, I am an advocate of a universal health care system in which each and every American would have health coverage. That is the most fair, affordable, and

sustainable solution to our national health care needs.

However, that won't be accomplished overnight. In the meantime, there are steps that Congress can and should be taking to develop immediate, if smaller, steps to providing people affordable health insurance coverage options. One such step is to pass legislation that would provide certain groups of individuals the option of buying into Medicare—a program with a proven track record that works. That's exactly what the Medicare Early Access Act does for people age 55 through 64.

As we all know, the baby-boomers are quickly approaching retirement, and health insurance is a major concern. Unfortunately, retiree health benefits have vanished or are quickly disappearing, leaving people with few or no affordable coverage options. A recent employer survey suggests that only 38 percent of large employers offer any type of retiree health benefits. Other recent research shows that 10 percent of the largest employers terminated all subsidized health benefits for future retirees in 2003.

With shrinking retiree benefits and no affordable options available in the individual market, people age 55 through 64 are often uninsured or gravely underinsured. Besides the 3.5 million uninsured between ages 55–64, another 3 million are forced to buy inadequate, overpriced coverage in the individual market. Most near elderly cannot purchase individual coverage because age rating and other underwriting techniques result in excessive premiums. Those that are even offered coverage are often required to pay astronomical deductibles and co-pays, or are severely limited by pre-existing condition exclusions.

In 1965, Medicare was specifically designed to provide coverage for those the market would not insure. Today we have the opportunity to expand on the original purpose of Medicare by providing access to people the market does not adequately cover. The Medicare Early Access Act would reduce the number of uninsured, provide better coverage for the underinsured, and improve the health status of this vulnerable population without harming Medicare or other insurance markets.

That's why the Medicare Early Access Act makes so much sense. It would allow people in this cohort to buy into Medicare and enjoy the exact same benefits available to all other Medicare beneficiaries. Premiums for these new participants would be based on actuarial calculations of the cost of providing services to the population. There would be no effect on the Medicare trust fund because premiums will cover the entire cost of services provided.

To ensure premiums are affordable, the bill provides a 75 percent advanceable, refundable tax credit. Thus, participants would pay a monthly premium equal to 25 percent of the cost of the program—an amount similar to what employed individuals pay for their health benefits.

I am pleased to report that advocacy organizations representing consumers and seniors agree with us. The Medicare Early Access Act has been endorsed by The Leadership Council of Aging Organizations (LCAO) which is a coalition of national nonprofit organizations concerned with the well-being of America's older population and committed to representing their interests in the policy-making

arena. I would like to thank the 27 members of the LCAO who signed a letter in support of the Medicare Early Access Act. The full text of their letter appears at the end of my statement.

In our quest to reduce the number of uninsured Americans, the Medicare Early Access Act, is a great start. This bill would provide affordable, comprehensive coverage to the most vulnerable uninsured who have few, if any, health insurance options in the current marketplace. The system necessary to implement this bill is already in place; all we have to do is agree the uninsured deserve viable coverage options. I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to enact this proposal.

THE MEDICARE EARLY ACCESS ACT BILL SUMMARY

ELIGIBILITY

Starting January 2005, individuals age 55–64 who do not have access to coverage under another public or group health plan are eligible to purchase Medicare. Enrollees will receive the full range of Medicare benefits. Participants are not required to exhaust employer-based COBRA coverage before choosing the Medicare buy-in option. At age 65, buy-in participants move into regular Medicare.

In addition, because employers are dropping retiree health benefits at an alarming rate, early retirees who have access to retiree health coverage may also participate, and their employers can wrap around the Medicare benefit.

PREMIUMS

Enrollees must pay a premium to receive Medicare coverage. The premium will be set by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services at the actuarial level necessary to cover the full cost of services provided to the buy-in population. The premium will be adjusted annually to ensure its accuracy.

TAX CREDIT

Program enrollees receive a 75 percent refundable, advanceable tax credit to offset premium costs. Thus, participants in the Medicare buy-in are only personally responsible for their 25 percent of the monthly premiums. The tax credit is modeled on the payment mechanism created by the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) health care tax credit for displaced workers, which was enacted in 2002.

FINANCING

Premiums are deposited in a new Medicare Early Access Trust Fund. Participant premiums and tax credits are transferred to the Early Access Trust Fund to pay for Medicare services, ensuring this new program does not financially affect Medicare.

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL OF AGING ORGANIZATIONS, Washington, DC, May 5, 2004.

Hon. SHERROD BROWN,
Hon. PETE STARK,
Member of Congress,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVES BROWN AND STARK: The undersigned members of the Leadership Council of Aging Organizations (LCAO) strongly endorse the bill you proposed to help individuals age 55–64 years buy into the Medicare program at an affordable price.

Older Americans who are not yet eligible for Medicare have a difficult time finding affordable health care and in some cases may find that no insurer will cover them at a time in their life when they most need health insurance protection.

Your bill, which combines the efficiency of Medicare's mass market purchasing power with the affordability provided by refundable tax credits, effectively solves one of our nation's toughest uninsured problems.

We wish you success in this important legislative effort, and we will be happy to work with you and your co-sponsors in promoting its passage.

Sincerely,
AFSCME Retiree Program.
Alliance for Retired Americans.
American Association for International Aging.
American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging.
American Federation of Teachers Program on Retirement & Retirees.
American Foundation for the Blind.
American Public Health Association.
Association for Gerontology and Human Development in Historically Black Colleges and Universities.
Association of Jewish Aging Services of North America.
B'nai B'rith International.
Catholic Health Association.
FamiliesUSA.
Gray Panthers.
International Union, UAW.
National Asian Pacific Center on Aging.
National Association for Hispanic Elderly.
National Association of Professional Geriatric Care Managers.
National Association of Retired and Senior Volunteer Program Directors.
National Association of Retired Federal Employees.
National Association of Senior Companion Project Directors.
National Association of Social Workers.
National Caucus and Center on Black Aged.
National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare.
National Indian Council on Aging.
National Senior Citizens Law Center.
OWL, the voice of midlife and older women.
Volunteers of America.

NEW YORK CITY WATERSHED PROTECTION PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION

SPEECH OF

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2004

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I misspoke when on May 5, 2004, I identified perchlorate as the contaminant found at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. The contaminants identified in the drinking water at Camp Lejeune were trichloroethylene and perchloroethylene.

THE PYRAMID OF REMEMBRANCE LIVING MEMORIAL

HON. STEVEN C. LATOURETTE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I was honored to visit Arlington National Cemetery this

morning for the dedication ceremony for the Pyramid of Remembrance Living Memorial. It was a privilege to be in the company of a group of amazing young people from Painesville Township, OH, who have shown compassion and integrity beyond their years.

The idea for the Pyramid of Remembrance Living Memorial originated in a classroom at Riverside High School in Painesville Township, OH, and was sparked by the sight of a U.S. soldier being dragged through the streets of Mogadishu, Somalia. That horrible image was seared into our Nation's consciousness, and in the classroom of Dr. Mary Porter it spurred discussion of other worthy sacrifice that is regrettably overlooked.

The students decided then—more than a decade ago—that a memorial should be erected in our Nation's Capital to honor the forgotten ones—those killed in circumstances other than declared wars, including training accidents, humanitarian efforts, peacekeeping missions and terrorist attacks. The students envisioned a large memorial, possibly near the Mall, but ran into many stumbling blocks because such memorials must honor those who have died in declared conflicts.

They could have gutted the intention and heart of their memorial to make it fit the stringent confines of law, but the entire purpose of this endeavor was to honor those whose sacrifice doesn't fit in one tidy category. They persevered.

Twice, legislation I introduced to create the memorial was passed by the House of Representatives, but never with enough time left in a congressional session for the Senate to take it up. The students have been to Washington several times in the last decade, and have testified before both the House and Senate, and the National Capital Memorial Commission. They brought with them letters of support from former President Bush, former Secretary Cohen, and others. They were patient as one Congress faded away and another began, and held out hope each time Senator VOINOVICH and I introduced legislation—this might be the time we'd get it done.

At every turn and by everyone they encountered, the students were praised. "This is a wonderful idea, but . . ."

If you hear someone say, "This is a wonderful idea, but . . ." enough times, some might be inclined to give up and chalk it up as a great idea that was never actualized. Not this group.

Last summer, a last-ditch meeting was held in my office, and this time we had the ear of the Superintendent of Arlington National Cemetery, John C. Metzler, Jr. Superintendent Metzler was candid and told the Senator and me that we couldn't build a memorial of the scale the students wanted in Arlington due to limited burial space. In fact, he told us that if the memorial before us was one-inch larger we'd need an act of Congress to approve it. He offered an alternative to accomplish the students' noble goal.

Five years ago, Arlington discontinued its program of living memorials because there were already 174 such memorials throughout the cemetery. But Superintendent Metzler graciously made an exception for the students of Riverside High School so their dream could become a reality. I want to give special thanks to Superintendent Metzler and Arlington National Cemetery Historian Tom Sherlock for their unwavering efforts on behalf of the school.

Though some might argue that the living memorial we dedicated on this glorious May morning is not as grand in scale as the students initially envisioned, it is every bit as grand in purpose. Every person who visits Arlington National Cemetery from this day forward—more than four million people a year—can take comfort knowing that this living memorial will honor not only those killed in the terrorist attacks on the Pentagon and the USS *Cole*, but also those who lost their lives in Somalia, Bosnia, Kosovo and Panama; during the bombing of the Marine barracks in Beirut; during the failed rescue attempt of American hostages in Iran; and in the far too many deadly training accidents that occur on land, in air, and at sea, so that our forces can be ready for combat.

Throughout our land, our military bases are named for those who died so that our troops are ready for war. Kelly Air Force Base in San Antonio is named for Lt. George Kelly, the first Army pilot to lose his life piloting a military aircraft on May 10, 1911. Hill Air Force Base in Texas is named for Maj. Ployer "Pete" Hill, who was killed October 30, 1935, while test flying the first B-17 at Wright Field in Dayton. Even Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in my state of Ohio is similarly named. The Wright portion comes from the Wright Brothers, of course. The Patterson is 1st. Lt. Frank S. Patterson, who died in a training accident in Dayton on June 19, 1919, while testing newly installed machine guns in his plane.

Those who are honored by this living memorial have perished in non-declared war situations. The list is long and incomplete, and the sacrifice is often not given the recognition it deserves.

Earlier this year, I attended the funeral of Sean Landrus of Thompson, OH, a father of three who died in Iraq after major combat ended. In the month of April alone, more than 136 U.S. troops died in Iraq, nearly a year after the end of declared combat. At least 13 were teenagers.

Just two weeks ago, three soldiers from Ft. Bragg died when their Black Hawk helicopter crashed during a training exercise. One planned to retire in a few months, another had just married on Valentine's Day. One commander remarked: "To lose someone on a training flight as opposed to in combat makes no difference." He is right.

We should not judge or quantify the sacrifice of those who serve for and die for their country.

This morning, I was humbled that so many attended our dedication ceremony, including Senator VOINOVICH and his wife, Janet; Superintendent Metzler; Lt. Gen. Richard A. Cody; Col. Ricky L. Rife; former Congressman Michael P. Flanagan; Col. Glenn Lackey; Lt. Col. Steve Geise; Dr. Mary Porter; and of course the nearly 60 guests from Riverside High School and Painesville Township.

I was also privileged to present the students with greetings from Secretary Anthony J. Principi of the Department of Veterans Affairs, Chairman DUNCAN HUNTER of the House Committee on Armed Services, and Vice President DICK CHENEY, who told the students: "The ranks of the United States military have been filled with men and women of honor who place duty and country above self-interest. Whenever a service member is killed, our country mourns its loss. We also rededicate ourselves to continuing the tasks to which they dedi-

cated their lives—to the defense of our country and to the lasting security, and peace of the world. Thank you again for establishing this fine memorial. It will always stand as a fitting tribute to those who lost their lives while in the service of our great Nation."

I am incredibly proud of the students of Riverside High School for their idea and their tenacity, and their desire to share this memorial with the Nation. Visitors to Section 55 of Arlington National Cemetery will find a beautiful Southern Magnolia tree and a red granite base with a bronze marker. They will notice that many words are engraved on the marker, but not the name of Riverside High School.

The students' gesture to make the Pyramid of Remembrance Living Memorial a gift from America's youth is incredibly selfless, thoughtful and mature. On behalf of all Americans, I thank you and honor you.

HONORING MARINE LANCE
CORPORAL PHILLIP E. FRANK

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the ultimate sacrifice of Marine Lance Corporal Phillip E. Frank, of Elk Grove Village, Illinois. He died April 8, 2004 of gunshot wounds sustained during combat operations in the Al Anbar Province of Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Corporal Frank dedicated his young life at the age of 20 to the service of our country and restoring peace. Our deepest sympathies go to his wife, Keri Johnson Frank; his parents, Roy and Georgette Frank; his sister Cyndi; and other family, friends and community members who mourn his loss.

Lance Cpl. Frank was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 1, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, based in Camp Pendleton, California. He was a recipient of the National Defense Medal.

Lance Cpl. Frank was born on July 5, 1983, and grew up in Cliffwood Beach, New Jersey.

ELECTIONS IN PUNJAB MAY 10—
THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO
CLAIM FREEDOM

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, India is undergoing a cycle of elections. Unlike this country, India does not hold the elections on a single day but over a period of time. I guess it's difficult to hold elections on one day when you have a billion people.

Elections in Punjab have been scheduled for May 10. Recently, the Council of Khalistan put out an open letter to the people of Punjab urging them to use these elections to bring about independence for the Sikh homeland, Punjab, Khalistan.

It looks like the elections will result in a hung Parliament. The militantly Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which has

been leading the government, seems to have lost some ground. A coalition government will need to be formed.

That brings substantial power to the regional parties in the various states and regions of the country. These parties could well control who runs the Indian government. The Council of Khalistan called on these regional parties to band together in a "freedom bloc" to unite for freedom and self-determination for all of the minorities of South Asia.

The open letter notes that both the BJP and the rival Congress Party are dangerous to the freedom of the Sikhs and other minorities, and the regional Akali Dal is in coalition with the BJP. The Akali leaders invited the Congress Party government of Indira Gandhi to invade the Golden Temple, the seat of the Sikh religion, and they surrendered quickly when the attack came.

This letter points out these and other reasons why it is important to use these elections as a springboard to achieve freedom for Khalistan and the other nations seeking to free themselves of Indian rule.

Mr. Speaker, we all know the brutality of India's suppression of these freedom movements. They have murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, over 85,000 Kashmiri Muslims, over 300,000 Christians in Nagaland, and tens of thousands of other minorities. Now, according to the Tribune of Chandigarh, the Indian government is demanding that the government of Punjab pay them back for the costs accrued in suppressing the Sikhs.

This is outrageous, Mr. Speaker. As the beacon of freedom, the United States must be strong against this kind of repression. We should stop all American aid to India until it stops the repression and allows all people within its borders to enjoy their most basic human rights fully. And we should put this Congress on record as supporting self-determination for the Sikhs of Khalistan, the Muslims of Kashmir, the Christians of Nagaland, and all the other people seeking freedom from India's brutal rule.

The right to self-determination is the essence of democracy, Mr. Speaker. The lack of self-determination and the repression show that India's claim to be a democracy is fake. It is time for us to take a stand on behalf of freedom for all.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert the Council of Khalistan's open letter into the RECORD at this time.

OPEN LETTER TO THE SIKH NATION,
April 27, 2004.

Elections in Punjab have been set for May 10. Elections under the Indian Constitution will not free the Sikh Nation. Use this opportunity, however, to elect committed, hottest Sikhs who are committed to freeing Khalistan to Parliament.

These elections will certainly result in a hung Parliament. No party is capable of putting together the national majority needed to control Parliament on its own. A coalition government will be formed. The regional parties will be very important in deciding who will control the government. This gives the regional parties and the regions they represent enormous power. We must use this power to our benefit. It is time for the regional parties to form a "freedom bloc" to work together for freedom for Khalistan, Kashmir, Nagaland, and all the minority nations seeking their freedom from India's bru-

tal rule. We agree with L.K. Advani when he said, "When Kashmir goes, India goes." By securing freedom for any of the captive nations of South Asia, we bring about freedom for all of us. Working together in a common, unified effort will hasten that day for everyone.

Congress and the BJP are both the enemies of the Sikh Nation. They both watch out for the interests of the Hindu majority at the expense of the Sikh Nation and other minorities. The BJP has murdered Muslims in Gujarat, in Kashmir, and elsewhere and Christians in Nagaland and throughout India. They have forcibly reconverted Christians back to Hinduism. They preach Hindutva (total Hindu control of the culture and society) and openly preach that if you live in India, you must either be Hindu or be subservient to Hinduism.

The Congress Party attacked the Golden Temple, the most sacred shrine of the Sikh Nation, 125 other Gurdwaras throughout Punjab. Over 20,000 Sikhs were murdered in those attacks, known as Operation Bluestar, including Sant Jamail Singh Bhindranwale, General Shabeg Singh, Bhai Amrik Singh, and over 100 Sikh religious students ages 8-13 who were taken out into the courtyard and shot. The BJP congratulated Indira Gandhi on the attack and said it should have been done earlier.

These attacks accelerated the Sikh independence movement and deepened the desire for independence in the hearts of Sikhs, a fire that burns brightly in the hearts of the Sikh Nation to this day. Sant Bhindranwale said that the attack on the Golden Temple would "lay the foundation stone of Khalistan" and he was right. Late in 2003, former Member of Parliament Atinder Pal Singh organized a seminar on Khalistan at Baba Makhana Shah Labana Hall, Sector 30, Chandigarh. This shows that the flame of freedom is still burning in the hearts of Sikhs. Sikhs can never forgive or forget the Indian government's military attack on the Golden Temple. It is time to take action to free our homeland.

The Badal Akalis are totally controlled by their coalition partners, the BJP. Chief Minister Captain Anarinder Singh is in bed with the Congress Party. He honored the former Chief Minister, Beant Singh, who is responsible for the mass murder of hundreds of thousands of Sildis and gave over 41,000 cash bounties to police officials for killing Sikhs. Neither will protect the interests of the Sikh Nation. They have undermined Sikh character and Sikh values. Simply by joining the Congress Party, Captain Amarinder Singh is undermining Sikh values. Badal, Tobra, and Longowal said that India would have to get to the Golden Temple by rolling tanks over their dead bodies, then quickly surrendered. The Akalis invited the Indian Army to the Golden Temple to murder Sant Bhindranwale, General Shabeg Singh, Bhai Amrik Singh, and so many other committed Sikhs.

Do not support Badal or the Akalis. The Badal government was the most corrupt government in the history of Punjab. They sold jobs for a fixed fee. They came up with a new, dignified term for bribery: "fee for service." If you didn't pay the fee, you didn't get the service. Badal's wife was so experienced that she could pick up a bag of money and tell how much money was in it. Parkash Singh Badal was a disaster for Punjab and a disgrace to the Sikh Nation. Yet the Akali Dal continues to support Badal, even though he was prosecuted and jailed for his corruption. What has happened to the character of the present-day Akalis? They are defaming

the name of the pre-partition pious Akalis who suffered and sacrificed for the cause of the Khalsa Panth.

Not even a single Akali protested the unprecedented corruption of Badal. According to India-West, the Punjab Vigilance Bureau carried out raids on Badal's properties for several months and filed a charge-sheet in a local court charging Mr. Badal with siphoning off Rs. 784 million, the equivalent of \$17 million in U.S. money, during his five years as chief minister. The article says that Mr. Badal and his family hold assets of Rs. 4326 crores (nearly \$1 billion), most of which are located outside India. Half the population of India lives below the international poverty line. About 40 percent live on less than \$2 per day.

Lalit Mansingh, the outgoing Indian Ambassador to the United States, has said, "There is no India without Sikhs and no Sikhs without India." He is wrong. The Sikh Nation has survived perfectly fine without India. Before there was an India, Sikhs flourished. The Sikhs ruled Punjab as an independent country from 1710 to 1716 and again from 1765 to 1849. Sikhs stopped the invasion from the West, annexed Kashmir from the Afghans, and occupied Kabul for a short period.

Remember the words of Professor Darshan Singh, former Jathedar of the Akal Takht, during the celebration of Guru Nanak's birthday: "If a Sikh is not a Khalistani, he is not a Sikh." He was only reiterating the Guru's blessing, "In Grieb Sikhin Ko Deon Patshahi." The time to achieve our independence is now.

The opportunity these elections provide must be used to liberate our homeland, Khalistan, from Indian oppression. We must choose leaders who will work for freedom for the Sikh Nation. Remember, you get what you vote for. Always remember our heritage: Raj Kare Ga Khalsa; Khalsa Bagi Yan Badshah. Freedom for Khalistan is very close. Let us take this opportunity to make it happen.

Panth Da Sewadar,
DR. GURMIT SINGH AULAKH,
President, Council of Khalistan.

REMEMBERING DR. JAMES E.
HAYES

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to pay tribute to an esteemed physician and administrator from the Fourth Congressional District of Texas, Dr. James E. Hayes, who died recently at the young age of 49 of multiple myeloma. Dr. Hayes was nationally renowned as an effective and innovative emergency room physician and administrator during his twenty-two year career.

Jim Hayes was born in Sherman, Texas, and graduated from Whitesboro High School in 1972 and Grayson County College in 1973. He received his bachelor's degree from Texas Tech University in 1976, graduating summa cum laude, and received his medical degree from Southwestern Medical School 4 years later.

Jim dedicated his career to serving the healthcare needs of the citizens of North Texas. He began as a staff emergency physician in 1981 at Methodist Medical Center, where he was named associate medical director of emergency services. In 1991, while at Methodist, he was named medical director for CareFlite Dallas.

He left Methodist in 1992 to become chairman of the emergency medicine division of the department of surgery at UT Southwestern. At the same time he served as director of the Poison Control Center and director of emergency services at Parkland Memorial Hospital. In 1997, in recognition of his years of outstanding leadership and service, he was named to the Riggs Family Chair in Emergency Medicine at UT Southwestern.

In 1999 Jim joined EMCare, a Dallas-based emergency department management company, as the chief of medical affairs and served in that capacity until September, 2003, when he left EMCare for medical reasons. In October, as a testament to his many contributions to his profession, he received the James D. Mills Award for Outstanding Contributions to Emergency Medicine from the American College of Emergency Physicians.

Dr. Jim Hayes will be long remembered as a dedicated physician, talented administrator and emergency room innovator. The citizens of North Texas have lost a valuable asset and a good friend, and we send our heartfelt condolences to his family—mother, Helen Acker Hayes of Whitesboro; brother, Bill Hayes of Whitesboro; and sister, Diane Hayes Gibson of Sherman.

I have lost a great personal friend—one I could always rely on for advice and direction regarding any pending health issues. He was a kind and valuable friend—and the world is better off because he walked this way. Jim had unquestioned ethics, determined loyalty to his patients, and was pure class in all of his dealings with those of us who loved and admired him.

Mr. Speaker, as we adjourn today, I want to take this opportunity in the House of Representatives to pay our respects to this dedicated physician, esteemed citizen and my good friend—Dr. James E. Hayes.

HONORING JOHN JERMANIS, SAN
LEANDRO CITY MANAGER
EXTRAORDINAIRE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to John Jermanis, City Manager of San Leandro, California. This year, John is marking 35 years of outstanding service in municipal government.

John was born and raised in Berkeley, California. He attended Berkeley High School, received his bachelor's degree in business administration from San Francisco State University, and has done graduate studies in public administration with California State University Hayward.

He began his municipal government service in 1969 as an accountant with the city of Livermore. In 1971, John was hired by the city of San Leandro as assistant Finance Director

and has been with the city for 33 years. In 1982, he became the City's Finance Director, and in 1977, he was appointed by the City Council as City Manager.

John has a proven track record with the city of San Leandro that is hard to beat. His professionalism, intellect, and commitment to the city are exemplary. He is focused on making sure San Leandro stays on sound fiscal footing and is responsive to the needs of its citizens.

His colleagues know John Jermanis as City Manager Extraordinaire. This is a fitting description of his talent and a tribute to his expertise in city management.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND
IDEALS OF PEACE OFFICERS ME-
MORIAL DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, today the House of Representatives will overwhelmingly support H. Res. 622, a resolution that pays tribute to Peace Officers Memorial Day, which takes place on May 15th, and honors those law enforcement officers who have died or become disabled in the line of duty. As a former officer with the Michigan State Police and Escanaba City Police Department as well as founder and co-chair of the Law Enforcement Caucus, I am a proud co-sponsor of this Resolution and want to thank my colleague Mr. HEFLEY for co-sponsoring it again this year.

Since September 11, 2001, many in this Nation and this Congress have come to recognize the importance of the sacrifices made by our law enforcement officers. Every day these men and women protect and serve, often putting their own lives at risk.

Peace Officers Memorial Day brings us together in honoring the sacrifice our Nation's law enforcement and public safety officers make to our communities and our Nation every day.

This sacrifice was all too clearly demonstrated in Detroit, Michigan this year. Jennifer Fettig, a 26-year-old Detroit Police Officer and her 21-year-old partner, were killed in February during a traffic stop. This tragic killing illustrates the danger our law enforcement officers face daily not only during crisis situations, but while performing routine duties.

I think it is important as we discuss and pass this resolution that we must also resolve to provide our public safety officers the resources they need to meet the daily challenges of their jobs—especially at a time when we have placed greater demands on them to fight and prevent terrorist threats. We can do that by fully funding important grant programs such as COPS, Byrne, and LLEBG.

That also includes providing assistance to help regional law enforcement and first responders talk to each other in times of emergency. My bill, H.R. 3370, The Public Safety interoperability Act, would provide grants to local law enforcement agencies to modernize their communication systems and become interoperable. These are the kinds of resources and tools I'm talking about. We need to do everything possible to ensure that our

law enforcement officers are fully interoperable.

I am hopeful that my colleagues will follow up on their support of this resolution, and continue our commitment to law enforcement by supporting these important funding needs. It is the least we can do for those who put their lives on the line for us every day.

RECOGNIZING WILLIAM "BILL"
DONOVAN FOR 25 YEARS OF
SERVICE WITH NAFCU

HON. STEVEN C. LATOURETTE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize my friend and a true public servant William "Bill" Donovan for 25 years of service here in Washington with the National Association of Federal Credit Unions (NAFCU). I know that many of my colleagues here today—both past and present—have had the opportunity to meet and work with Bill, and I hope they have enjoyed that opportunity as much as I.

Bill currently serves as the Senior Vice President and General Counsel for NAFCU. I came to know Bill early in my career as he and I and my colleague from Pennsylvania, Mr. KANJORSKI, worked for the passage of the Credit Union Membership Access Act in 1998. Following the passage of that historic legislation, Bill delivered a picture to my office with my head mounted on Mount Rushmore. Looking back at those years, it should have been Bill's head mounted on Mount Rushmore instead of mine, as no one was more instrumental in making sure that legislation passed than Bill Donovan.

In his 25 years of service to NAFCU, Mr. Donovan has been a tireless advocate and a leading voice for the credit union community on Capitol Hill. Just as amazing as his work for NAFCU is his commitment to family-life outside of work. Mr. Donovan and his wife Donna have seven children, and he has remained an active member of his church for many years.

I congratulate Bill on all of his fine work throughout his illustrious 25 years at NAFCU. I have enjoyed working with him on issues that are important to the credit union community, and I look forward to continuing to do so in the future. Congratulations on your 25th Anniversary at NAFCU, Mr. Donovan.

HONORING U.S. ARMY PRIVATE
FIRST CLASS SHAWN C. EDWARDS

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to U.S. Army Private First Class Shawn C. Edwards, of Bensenville, Illinois. PFC Edwards was killed on April 23, 2004 when his convoy hit a roadside bomb in Samarra, Iraq. He had been serving in Iraq since February.

PFC Edwards was a junior in high school when he made the adult decision to enlist in the U.S. Army. He told his father he could use

the discipline, and he didn't want his family worrying about paying for his education. He began his service after graduating from York Community High School in Elmhurst in 2002. He was assigned to the 121st Signal Battalion, 1st Infantry Division, based in Kitzingen, Germany. Like many of our soldiers, PFC Edwards had plans for the time when he would come back home. He was going to return to college. He loved computers and tinkering, and demonstrated his expertise in electronics during his brief Army service. At the time of his death, he was setting up cellular communication networks in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

PFC Edwards carried on a proud family tradition when he enlisted in the military. His father is a veteran of the Vietnam War, and his grandfather served in World War II.

PFC Edwards was only a young man of 20 when he made the ultimate sacrifice in service to his country. Our deepest sympathies go to his beloved family—his mother Elizabeth, his father Glen, and his sister Robin—as well as to his other family and friends. The entire community joins in mourning Shawn's loss.

We honor the memory of PFC Shawn C. Edwards and the dedication and bravery with which he served our nation and the people of Iraq.

OXYCONTIN IS ADDICTIVE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address a long-standing and unfortunately ever growing problem affecting our society, prescription drug abuse and addiction. Specifically, I would like to discuss the scourge that has been caused by the prescription drug OxyContin. OxyContin has caused countless deaths from overdose and toxicity. Equally important, however, OxyContin has caused thousands of individuals lawfully prescribed the drug to become addicted, causing a wide variety of destructiveness and in many instances ruining the lives of innocent people.

OxyContin is a schedule II narcotic pain medication as defined by the Controlled Substances Act. This is the most dangerous designation of legal, as opposed to illegal, prescription drugs under the Controlled Substances Act of 1970. It is in the same class as morphine. Unfortunately for the American public, the manufacturers and distributors of OxyContin have made concerted, intentional efforts to make this dangerous drug anything but "controlled".

Purdue Pharma is the manufacturer of OxyContin. This drug was promoted with the assistance of Abbott Laboratories. Over the last 6 years OxyContin has amassed sales of more than ten billion dollars as a result of an overly aggressive, inappropriate and, unfortunately for our citizens, highly effective marketing plan.

This drug was marketed to a broad range of physicians who, according to Purdue Pharma's own internal documents, were uneducated or at least undereducated on the use of opioids like oxycodone and morphine. Family practitioners in rural areas, gynecologists, sports medicine practitioners and

even dentists were instructed by Purdue and Abbott representatives that they could prescribe this morphine-like drug for even moderate pain without the slightest concern of addiction. They were told to prescribe the drug in very high doses so long as the pain persisted. The most widely prescribed dose of OxyContin contains 20 milligrams of oxycodone. Taking one pill of 20 mg OxyContin would be the equivalent of taking 4 Percocets, a very strong narcotic pain medication, as well. The marketing plan and the assertions about the safety of the drug were based on false information. OxyContin can be addictive to prescription patients.

In fact, countless numbers of innocent pain patients have become addicted to OxyContin. They were told both by the company and unwitting physicians that this drug was not addictive. That was not true. There is no support for the theory that the OxyContin is not addictive. Moreover, the manufacturers and promoters of this dangerous drug have conspicuously failed to study the addictiveness of this drug over the last 6, very prosperous years. It is only logical that the results of those studies would only undermine their very persuasive sales claims that this drug was not addictive.

Purdue will most certainly tout their concern for the pain patient, claiming that their drug provides pain relief to the masses of unfortunate sufferers of chronic pain. I am not persuaded nor will I be deceived by this argument. I am truly concerned for the pain patient. It is not my purpose to take good medications away from pain patients, but it is also not my intent to permit American companies to mislead the pain patients as to the safety and effectiveness of pain medication. Misinformation about the addictiveness of this drug did not help the pain patient. Instead, it took advantage of the very condition that this drug was supposed to help.

I call upon Congress to convene hearings on the question of how this public health menace came to be, who is responsible, what was told to the American public and to healthcare professionals by the manufacturer, and what we, the Congress, can do to prevent tragedies like this from repeating themselves in the future.

A RENEWED CALL FOR MINING LAW REFORM

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, an article on the front page of the May 11, 2004, Washington Post entitled, "All Quiet On the House Side," by Charles Babington, contrasts "the burgeoning scandal over U.S. treatment of Iraqi prisoners and persistent concerns about the economy and the deficit" with the seemingly limitless lack of concern for meaningful action here in the House on any significant issue. This comes as no surprise to me or, evidently, Mr. Babington.

"The House's lean schedule is no accident. GOP leaders who set the agenda and floor schedule say they achieved most of their top priorities last year and are content to rest on their laurels through the election."

For this reason, a great number of important issues lay by the wayside, collecting dust,

while we convene in brief, three-day sessions to tackle the not-so-weighty issues of naming federal post offices, or designating days, weeks, or months to such non-controversial subjects such as "Financial Integrity."

A perfect example of an opportunity squandered by the Republican leadership is the total lack of attention being given to the need to reform this country's antiquated mining laws.

As many of my colleagues know, I have fought to reform the General Mining Law of 1872 for the past 17 years, and along with Representatives Shays and Inslee, continue to work on behalf of the taxpayer to ensure proper reimbursement for the natural riches mining companies extract from our public lands for the cost of a fast-food cheeseburger. Our bill, H.R. 2141, deserves consideration by the House Resources Committee, yet no hearings have been scheduled.

This is not going unnoticed by the public. On Monday, May 10, 2004, the Environmental Working Group released a new interactive report, located at www.ewg.org/mining, that shows how international and domestic mining companies have taken control of 9.3 million acres of public western lands under the archaic Mining Law of 1872. On the day following its release, three Western newspapers ran articles focused on local problems resulting from the mining industry's control of Western public lands:

"Group raises red flag over old mining law" by Michael Doyle, Modesto Bee.

"Once public land goes private" by Robert McClure, The Seattle Times.

"Bargain-priced mining claims abound in West, figures show. Report: 5.6 million acres staked out under 1872 law" by Mike Soraghan, The Denver Post.

H.R. 2141 does not deal with coal, or oil and gas. These energy minerals, if located on Federal lands, are leased by the government, and a royalty is charged. Further, Mining Law reform does not deal with private lands. The scope of the Mining Law of 1872 and legislation to reform it is limited to hardrock minerals such as gold, silver, lead and zinc on Federal lands in the Western States.

H.R. 2141 would prohibit the continued giveaway of public lands. It would require that a holding fee be paid for the use of the land, and that a royalty be paid on the production of valuable minerals extracted from these Federal lands. And, it would require industry to comply with some basic reclamation standards.

The American public deserves a fair return from the gold, silver and other hardrock minerals produced from public lands and the hard rock mining industry should be required to meet the same environmental standards that all other extractive industries meet. As our distinguished Minority Whip, Rep. Steny Hoyer, noted on the floor today, "Our constituents did not send us here to pretend to legislate. They sent us here to solve problems and fulfill our duty."

It is time, well past time, that Congress replace the 1872 Mining Law with one that reflects our values and goals. Please contact the Resources Committee Democratic staff if you would like to co-sponsor this important legislation.

RECOGNIZING CONTRIBUTIONS OF PEOPLE OF INDIAN ORIGIN TO UNITED STATES AND BENEFITS OF WORKING TOGETHER WITH INDIA

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, as a cosponsor of H. Con. Res. 352, I strongly support this resolution which honors the contributions of people of Indian origin to the United States and declares that Congress is committed to working together with India to promote peace, prosperity, and freedom among all countries.

As the largest democracy in the world, India has shown a genuine commitment to improving its economic ties to the United States, and the U.S. and India have formally committed to work together to build peace and security in South Asia, increase bilateral trade and investment, meet global environmental challenges, fight disease, and eradicate poverty.

There is no doubt that the close relationship between the U.S. and India is crucial to world stability and to the economic futures of both countries. India's long-term economic potential is tremendous, and the U.S. is already its largest trading and investment partner.

I am hopeful that we will foster an even closer relationship in the coming years by working together to tackle new and existing challenges.

CELEBRATING GIRLS INCORPORATED OF THE ISLAND CITY

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 40th Anniversary of Girls Incorporated of the Island City in Alameda, California. Girls, Inc. of the Island City held a successful 5th Annual Celebration of Excellence luncheon on May 1, 2004, in conjunction with their milestone anniversary.

Forty years ago, a group of Alameda citizens established a program for girls which was incorporated as Alameda Girl's Club, Inc. Kaye van Valkenberg, served as its first Board President (1964–1967) and together with other local civic leaders inspired what is now called Girls Inc. of the Island City. Over 300 girls currently participate in Girls Inc. of the Island City programs.

The mission of the organization is to inspire all girls to be strong, smart and bold through innovative programs, activities, and advocacy. The goal of its Activity Centers is to provide quality services to children and families, to encourage and support children's growth, and assist families to meet economic needs and family goals.

Girls Inc. of the Island City is a local member organization of the national Girls Inc. organization offering programs focused on helping girls of all races, ethnicity, economic and social backgrounds avoid violence, drug addiction, and teen pregnancy; teaching girls literacy in economics and the media; and en-

couraging girls to pursue careers in math, science and technology, and become community leaders.

Six program areas—careers, and life planning; health and sexuality, leadership and community action, sports and adventure; self-reliance and life skills; and culture and heritage are the foundation of Girls, Inc. of the Island City.

Girls, Inc. of Island City continues to inspire all girls to be strong, smart and bold and to have confidence and be safe in the world. I applaud its forty years of exemplary service and join the city of Alameda in appreciation for this organization's efforts to make a positive difference in the lives of girls.

REMEMBERING BILLIE ERLINE THORNTON

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor a dedicated and successful woman from Van Alstyne, Texas—Billie Erline Thornton, who passed away on March 17, 2004.

Billie was a successful businesswoman. After graduating from Anna High School and attending Draughn's Business College, she worked for the First National Bank in Dallas and the First National Bank in Anna. She finished her career as the manager of the Hurricane Creek Country Club, where she worked for nineteen years.

While she was a dedicated businesswoman, she was also a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother. She was married to her husband, Bob Thornton, for fifty-eight years and she helped raise their three daughters. She is survived by her husband, her daughters and their husbands, Sheryl and Walt Priest of North Little Rock, Arkansas, Brenda and Wayne Baggett of Friendswood, Texas, and Linda and David Wood of Van Alstyne, Texas. She was also the proud grandmother of Brian Priest and his wife Amanda, Stewart Priest, Emily Baggett and her husband James, Trevor Wood, and Tyler Wood. She also had one great-grandchild, Gabriella Hess. Her son, Bryan Norwood Thornton, preceded her in death, as did her parents, Bernie Reed and Effie Smith Bryan, one sister, Jimmie Wolfenson, and one brother, Richard Bryan.

Billie's warm smile and good heart will be missed throughout the community of Van Alstyne. On behalf of her family and friends, I want to take this opportunity in the House of Representatives to pay our last respects to this beloved woman—Billie Erline Thornton.

COMMEMORATING THE RETIREMENT OF LEMUEL M. PROCTOR, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY, 2004

HON. ALBERT RUSSELL WYNN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize a man who has dem-

onstrated that one person can make a difference in the lives of millions of people. If you are proud of the Metrorail system, you can thank Lemuel M. Proctor, who is the Chief Operating Officer for Rail Service at the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA). Today, I honor the almost-thirty years of service that Mr. Proctor has given to millions of citizens of Maryland and the Washington region.

A lifelong resident of Mitchellville, Mr. Proctor received his education and training in Prince George's County schools and the U.S. Air Force. From his modest beginnings as an electrical mechanic in 1974, Mr. Proctor steadily rose through the ranks to become one of the highest-ranking African-American executives at WMATA.

Mr. Proctor's credibility with rank and file employees has been critical to his success, particularly on September 11, 2001. On that day, Mr. Proctor had just overseen a busy morning rush hour, and many operators were returning to their home bases. After the morning's terrorist attacks, Mr. Proctor's task was to convince railcar operators to turn their trains around and transport passengers home safely. Mr. Proctor ensured that his employees had protective gear and sent them out to the system, where they performed their duties without hesitation. On that day, Metrorail transported passengers into and out of the region on back-to-back rush hours without incident.

With his energy and intelligence, Lem Proctor could have been a success in any line of work he desired. With the world at his feet, Mr. Proctor chose to make public service his vocation, and for that, we should all be grateful. I wish him the very best in his new endeavors.

IN HONOR OF CUYAHOGA SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Cuyahoga Special Education Service Center (CSESC), as they enter into their thirtieth year of services and support focused on thousands of children with special needs and their families residing throughout Cuyahoga County. The staff of CSESC has provided priceless educational tools to enhance learning and discovery for countless children—enhancing their hopes and creating new dreams.

CSESC offers a variety of programs and services to more than 23,000 children and youth with disabilities throughout Cuyahoga County. The mission of CSESC is to provide outstanding educational opportunities for all children with disabilities aged 3–21, to elevate the academic achievement of these children, and to ultimately dissolve the divide that separates these special children from the mainstream. Moreover, this vital support serves to enrich every facet within the life of a child who faces these challenges on a daily basis.

From birth through adulthood CSESC offers comprehensive programs focused on the individual needs of every child and her family. Some of the main services provided by the

compassionate professionals at CSESC include instruction in Assistive Technology, Early Childhood Services, Vocational Services, Professional Development, Family Services and Consultation/Assessment Services.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Cuyahoga Special Education Service Center. This exemplary organization has uplifted the lives of thousands of children—from toddlers to young adults, who reflect courage, grace, brilliance and tenacity despite their personal challenges. The level of commitment from the staff at CSESC is equaled only to that of these children and their families—a commitment to hope, to dream, to believe, to achieve—to make a positive difference within our corner of the world and beyond.

A VISION FOR GENERATIONS

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to three generations of the Abelson/Lasker families and Dr. Emil and Mrs. Erika Jacoby. All of these remarkable people will be honored at a special Adat Ari El dinner on May 16, 2004, appropriately themed, "A Vision for Generations."

Irv and Marcia Abelson, their children, and now their grandchildren have assumed key leadership positions and worked hard to build, support and improve Adat Ari El and the Jewish community. They have also provided critical support for a myriad of Jewish institutions both in Los Angeles and around the world, including Camp Ramah, the University of Judaism (UJ), the New Community Jewish High School, L.A. Hebrew High School, Heschel Day School, the Jewish Theological Seminary, the Women's League for Conservative Judaism, the Masorti Foundation for Conservative Judaism in Israel and the Bureau of Jewish Education.

Both Marcia and Irv have proven to be an indispensable part of the Adat Ari El community in so many ways. In addition to serving as Adat Ari El's Sisterhood President, Marcia worked with members of the Torah Fund for the Jewish Theological Seminary and the UJ.

Their daughter Jill was the second woman to ever become President of Adat Ari El. She was Vice President and Chairperson at the University of Judaism and served on various UJ committees for many years. Her husband, Marty Lasker, blows shofar—not an easy task—every year for the High Holy Days. He serves on several important Boards for organizations such as the New Community Jewish High School, Hebrew High School and Adat Ari El. My family and I are proud to call ourselves neighbors and friends of Jill and Marty.

The Laskers' children, Zachary and Jodi, continue in their parents' and grandparents' tradition of involvement and service. Zachary starred in several United Synagogue Youth (USY) plays and was President of the USY Chapter while in high school. Jodi worked at the Temple and was a USY Director during high school. Zachary has a masters degree in education from the UJ and Jodi holds an MBA and masters degree in education from the Uni-

versity. Both Zachary and Jodi have worked at Camp Ramah in California for many years in a variety of leadership positions. Currently Zachary is the assistant director for the camp and Jodi teaches at the Heschel Middle School in Northridge.

The Humanitarian Award recipients, Emil and Erika Jacoby, have also made invaluable contributions to Adat Ari El and are role models for all of us. Dr. Emil Jacoby worked in the Underground during WWII to help save Jews in Nazi-occupied countries. After the war he helped relocate displaced Jews to Israel. For many years he headed the Temple's religious school and served as Head of the Bureau of Jewish Education. He has a doctorate in education from the Jewish Theological Seminary, and was director of education for 16 years at Camp Ramah during the summer months and was also an adjunct professor at the Teachers Institute at the UJ.

Erika Jacoby taught in Adat Ari El's nursery school and served on many synagogue committees. She chaired the Holocaust Remembrance Committee which resulted in the dedication of a Holocaust Memorial Pillar. Erika also gives generously of her time and energy to speak with school children about her experience as a Holocaust survivor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in saluting these incredibly accomplished and impressive people who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to Adat Ari El and a longtime commitment to public service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 154, on agreeing to H. Res. 622—Supporting the goals and ideals of Peace Officers Memorial Day, I was present on the House floor but failed to vote. Had I voted, I would have voted "yes."

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, on May 17, 2004, the Library of Congress will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Supreme Court's landmark decision, *Brown v. Board of Education*. This celebration will include an exhibit as well as a panel discussion on school integration. In conjunction with this celebration the Library's Leadership Development Program class of 2003–2004 sponsored a poster contest in the District of Columbia Public Schools. Children in three grade categories, grades 3–4, 5–6, and 7–8, were asked to submit posters which expressed the theme, "How has the case changed our schools?" The three winners of the poster contest are: Maria Oliva, age 9, Shepherd Elementary School, Teacher: Dee Dee Chambliss; Canaisha Vaughn, age 11, Hamilton Center, Teacher: Leslie Milofsky;

and Nathan Johnson, age 13, Kramer Middle School, Teacher: Mary Jackson.

Congratulations to these three winners and to all students who participated in celebrating the 50th anniversary of *Brown v. Board of Education*.

CONGRATULATING MR. ROBERT J. ANADELL ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and honor that I congratulate Mr. Robert J. Anadell on his retirement from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 697. Bob has spent nearly 40 years dedicating his life to the interests of Local 697 as well as his community in Northwest Indiana. His career at Local 697 has allowed him the opportunity to touch the lives of numerous people. In honor of his gracious service to Local 697 as well as his community, there will be a celebration of his accomplishments on June 4, 2004, at the Avalon Manor Banquet Hall in Merrillville, Indiana.

Bob Anadell has accomplished many visionary goals throughout his career. Before joining Local 697 as a Journeyman Electrician in 1972, Bob admirably served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War until his Honorable discharge in 1968. After becoming a Journeyman Electrician, Bob faithfully served Local 697 on the Apprenticeship Committee and Executive Board. He served as President of Local 697 from 1985–1991 and again in 1993, and he also served as the Business Manager/Financial Secretary from 1966–2004.

Not only has Bob Anadell had many positive accomplishments throughout his career at Local 697, he has also actively contributed to his community through participation in various programs aimed at improving opportunities for the people of Northwest Indiana. He has been a powerful member of the Northwest Indiana Building Trades, Secretary Treasurer of the IBEW State Conference, Vice-President of the Indiana State AFL–CIO, Trustee of the Lake Area United Way, Board of Directors of Trade Winds, Member of the Lake County Integrated Services Delivery Board, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Investment Committee, and Executive Committee of the Legacy Foundation, as well as Co-Chairman of the Heroes Committee of the American Red Cross.

Northwest Indiana has a rich history of excellence in its craftsmanship and loyalty by its tradesmen. Bob Anadell is an outstanding example of the quintessential tradesman. He has mastered his trade and has consistently performed at the highest level throughout his career. Bob has demonstrated his loyalty by his outstanding service to Local 697 and his community through his hard work and self-sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, Bob Anadell has given his time and efforts selflessly to the people of Northwest Indiana throughout his years of service. He has taught every member of Local 697 and his community the true meaning of service to all members of the Northwest Indiana community. I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in

congratulating Mr. Bob Anadell for his outstanding contributions to Indiana's First Congressional District. I am proud to commend him for his lifetime of service and dedication.

RECOGNIZING CONTRIBUTIONS OF
PEOPLE OF INDIAN ORIGIN TO
UNITED STATES AND BENEFITS
OF WORKING TOGETHER WITH
INDIA

SPEECH OF

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 352, honoring the contributions of Indian-Americans and the people of India to the United States. This important resolution recognizes the benefits of our two nations working together towards our common goals of promoting peace, prosperity, and freedom among all countries of the world.

I am proud to count among my friends and neighbors many people of Indian origin, and I have seen first-hand the contributions they have made to the well-being and prosperity of our community. Indeed, the Fifth District of Illinois is enriched by the presence of longtime residents and recent immigrants from India, who have contributed their talents and energy to small business development, health care, science and the fine arts. Through their hard work and commitment to public service, our Indian neighbors have proven that America is made stronger by the contribution of its immigrant communities.

I am also pleased to recognize the continuing and growing friendship between the nations of India and the United States. India is the most populous democratic country in the world and has historically been a steadfast ally and loyal friend of the United States. We have benefited from our close and mutual friendship with India, through cooperation on security, trade and technological advancements which improve lives in both countries and help promote safety throughout the world.

With this bipartisan resolution, the American people recognize that we will be more effective and successful with India as a strategic partner in achieving our mutual objectives to promote democracy, combat terrorism, pursue nuclear non-proliferation, strengthen the global economy and trade, and slow the spread of HIV/AIDS.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlelady from California for introducing this concurrent resolution, and I urge my colleagues to support it, as well as to continue all of our efforts to promote peace and cooperation between these two great nations.

MILLER MOTION TO INSTRUCT
CONFEREES ON FY04 LABOR—
HHS BILL, H.R. 2660

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I support the Miller motion to instruct conferees because it

ensures that those making as little as \$23,660 a year are able to retain the overtime privileges they currently receive.

Mr. Speaker, I was a human resources professional for 10 years in a manufacturing human resources company, and then for 10 years I had my own company, advising high tech companies on their personnel policies and practices, including wage and salary structures. I know a thing or two about work structures.

Under the new overtime rules a "Team Leader" would be ineligible for overtime. I'm going to tell you what a team leader is: First of all, a team leader is not a professional that has a whole group of professional people working as a team negotiating for some grand project in some community. That team leader is a professional period, not a person paid on an hourly rate or a salaried nonexempt person.

In reality a team leader is a senior employee who has the background and the experience to earn the top of their pay rate. And because they've been around, because they know something, they've been asked to show more junior workers how to do the work, and to give them confidence and to give them guidance.

But they're doing the work right alongside of the worker they are mentoring. Today this person earns the top of their pay grade plus overtime. Under the new rules, without that overtime, that "Team Leader" is probably going to earn less than the person that they're working and guiding. The person the "Team Leader" guides will still qualify for overtime for the same hours worked.

So what are we talking about here? We're talking about people at the top of their pay grade getting less because they happen to have institutional knowledge, even though they are doing the same job. And I just don't see how anybody here in this Chamber believes that any new rules that impact workers like these are good for most Americans.

These rules help big business plain and simple, such as the newspaper publishers who were standing up and cheering Secretary Chao when she announced how these rules would allow them to stop paying overtime to journalists. They knew they were going to save money, lots of money.

Well, a rule that works for a handful of business owners and against most of the workers can't be the rule that works for the people of this country. That's why I urge my colleagues to support the Miller motion to instruct conferees and prevent our hard working Americans from losing the overtime they have come to depend on.

RECOGNIZING THE VETERANS WHO
SERVED DURING WORLD WAR II,
THE AMERICANS WHO SUP-
PORTED THE WAR, AND CELE-
BRATING THE COMPLETION OF
THE NATIONAL WORLD WAR II
MEMORIAL

SPEECH OF

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 409,

recognizing with humble gratitude the more than sixteen million veterans who served in the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II, and all the Americans of that generation who supported the war effort at home. This resolution further celebrates the completion of the National World War II Memorial on the National Mall.

After years of devotion by numerous veterans, politicians, architects, actors, corporations, schools, and other individuals, the dedication of the National World War II Memorial serves as an honorable way to recognize the veterans and citizens who sacrificed so much for the cause of human freedom.

This extraordinary memorial at the heart of our Nation's Capital is a fitting reminder to us all that some of the most valorous and courageous moments in our history occurred when our Nation was unified in defense of liberty and democracy against the forces of fascism and barbarity.

I shudder to reflect on where our world might be without the exceptional courage and dignity displayed by the members of the U.S. Armed Forces in World War II. These veterans took it upon themselves to place their bodies in harm's way to defend against an evil that threatened not just our Nation, but all the world's nations. The men who stormed the beaches of Normandy, who flew hair-raising missions over Berlin, who fought beneath the surface of the ocean, and who weathered the Battle of the Bulge displayed the kind of selflessness that should be an inspiration to all who stand up against tyranny and aggression.

Mr. Speaker, World War II was won not just by soldiers alone but also by the nation that supported them. In the theater of war, men and women served as doctors, nurses, journalists, photographers, suppliers, drivers, and many other roles in direct support of the combat troops. Here at home, millions of women took to the factories to produce the material and machinery so vital to winning: planes, jeeps, ships, guns, radios, and thousands of other products used everyday by the troops in the field.

The new National World War II Memorial is an important and invaluable dedication to the men and women of the United States who stood up to the forces of tyranny and oppression. Their courage, dignity, valor, and sacrifice will inspire future generations to reflect on the meaning of our Nation and on the meaning of the values we hold so dear.

I urge my colleagues to give their full support to the passage of this legislation.

HONORING COMMANDER CHARLES
L. STUPPARD, UNITED STATES
NAVY AND THE OFFICERS, CHIEF
PETTY OFFICERS, AND CREW OF
THE USS "ARLEIGH BURKE"
(DDG 51)

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Commander Charles L. Stuppard, United States Navy and the officers, Chief Petty Officers, and crew of the USS *Arleigh Burke* (DDG 51). USS *Arleigh Burke* was commissioned in Norfolk, Virginia, on July 4, 1991.

She is the first of the most powerful and survivable class of destroyers ever put to sea. She possesses the AEGIS Weapons System with multifunction radar, capable of detecting and tracking hundreds of targets simultaneously while conducting multiple engagements.

On March 5, 2004, in Norfolk, Virginia, Commander Charles L. Stuppard became the 9th Commanding Officer of this powerful navy vessel. Commander Stuppard graduated from Cornell University in 1982 with a bachelor of science degree in mechanical and aerospace engineering. He worked for 3 years as a Design and Test Engineer for Fairchild Republic Corporation in the A-10A, T-46 and SF-340 Aircraft programs. In 1985 he joined the Navy as an aviation officer candidate. After commissioning and flight training, Commander Stuppard switched to Surface Warfare.

Commander Stuppard served successively on board the following ships, September 1987 to July 1990, as Boilers Officer and Advanced Combat Direction Systems/Computers Officer, USS *Biddle* (CG 34) in Norfolk, Virginia; November 1990 to May 1993, as Electronics Readiness Officer/Combat Systems Officer, USS *Reeves* (CG 24) in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; January 1993 to September 1994, as Combat Systems Officer, USS *Sides* (FFG 14) in San Diego, California; April 1995 to September 1997, as commissioning Combat Systems Officer, USS *Gonzalez* (DDG 66) in Bath, Maine and Norfolk, Virginia. From September 1997 to November 1998, Commander Stuppard attended the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island where he earned a Masters degree in National Security and Strategic Studies. Afterwards, he served as Executive Officer of USS *Nicholas* (FFG 47) in Norfolk, Virginia.

After a 3-year tour of duty in the Pentagon as an Action Officer and then as an Executive Assistant to the Deputy Director for European Politico-Military Affairs, the Joint Staff Directorate of Strategic Plans and Policy, Commander Stuppard was selected as the Commanding Officer of the USS *Arleigh Burke* (DDG 51). Commander Stuppard's accomplishments and achievements are truly outstanding and serve as an example to all men throughout the country. Commander Stuppard is a fine citizen and an outstanding American. I congratulate Commander Stuppard and the crew of the *Arleigh Burke* for such a superb assignment.

HONORING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in the spirit of National Police Week to honor the 870,000 law enforcement officers who enforce our laws by risking their lives, and to remember the 145 officers who sacrificed their lives for our defense in 2003.

This week, law enforcement officers will gather with the families of officers killed in the line of duty to honor the commitment of our Nation's police forces and to remember those they have lost. Just as our soldiers are called to protect our interests overseas, we depend

on our police forces to protect our freedoms, secure our communities and keep us safe and free from fear.

In this Chamber, we debate and pass laws to govern our country, to provide for the safety of our citizens. The laws we make are ineffectual without the selfless dedication of our police forces. Throughout history, these men and women have demonstrated strength and valor in protection and service on every level from local to national. From the routine task of guarding our neighborhoods to answering the call from terror on September 11, it is obvious that these men and women are heroes everyday.

It is with sadness that I recognize two heroes from my district. Patrolman First Class David Ezernack and Patrolman Jeremy Carruth were serving a routine search warrant on February 20, 2003, an attempted arrest that wounded three officers and cost Patrolmen Ezernack and Carruth their lives. Their families and friends, and several officers of the Alexandria Police Department, are in Washington this week to participate in the Candlelight Vigil and to see the names of these two officers unveiled at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. We will never adequately express our gratitude, and our sympathies, to the sacrifice of these two officers.

I stand in this Chamber grateful to all law enforcement officers, but also to give special recognition to officers who are especially challenged, serving in our Nation's rural areas. Though violent crime rates are lower in rural areas, these incidences are not decreasing over the years as rapidly as violent crime rates in urban areas. Most of the victims of violent crimes in rural areas are assaulted in their own homes, by people they know—friends, neighbors, family members—a setting more prevalent than in large cities. David Ezernack and Jeremy Carruth served a rural area, and their beat was no less dangerous than a street in a large city.

Congress has continued to afford law enforcement officers with advancements in resources, such as bulletproof vests and enhanced technology. We must continue our commitment to providing our police forces with the best training and protection, and recognize the additional resources that may be necessary for the security of rural areas.

This week, let us extend to these men and women our profound gratitude, for their exhibitions of bravery and the sacrifices they are called to make, and our sympathies to their families. As these noble men and women sacrifice for a pledge to protect and to serve, it is our duty to honor them, past, present and future, to the highest degree.

IN RECOGNITION OF SISTER MARY PAUL JANCHILL, D.S.W.

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives to recognize the achievements of Sister Mary Paul Janchill, D.S.W., a tireless advocate for the rights of children and families, and one of the cofounders of the Center for Family Life in Sunset Park, Brooklyn.

For more than 50 years, Sister Mary Paul has been a pioneer and influential leader in child welfare. Sunset Park is a diverse, low-income neighborhood in Brooklyn, and almost a third of the population there is under the age of 18. Sister Mary Paul, a long-time advocate and leader in the fight for the rights of children and families, took her passion and strength, and cofounded the Center for Family Life.

Over the past 25 years, Sister Mary Paul has continued her work and dedication to meeting the needs of families that live in the financially distressed area of Sunset Park through her work at the center. She has continued the fight for low-income children and teenagers, especially those who are at risk of being swept into the social welfare system. The Center for Family Life offers services and advocacy to its clients, and already has two films, one of which received a 2003 Academy Award, that are based on its dedication and commitment to the community.

Sister Mary Paul, among her endless positive contributions, helped to modify the evaluation processes used by child welfare agencies and the family court system. She encourages people to view troubled teens as works in progress. Sister Mary Paul truly changes lives—individuals who have completed their programs later find themselves in leadership positions throughout the community. Her work is priceless, and is constantly felt by the significant number of youth, and families, that she reaches out to each and everyday.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sister Mary Paul Janchill, and join with my colleagues in the House of Representatives to recognize her extraordinary work in helping New York City's less privileged children and families.

ATTACHÉ SHOW CHOIR OF CLINTON HIGH SCHOOL

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend and congratulate the Clinton High School Attaché Show Choir upon completing its outstanding 2004 competition season.

The Clinton High School Attaché Show Choir was formed in September 1980, by Wilona Costello. Since 1992, Attaché has been led and directed by David and Mary Fehr; the instrumental pit under the direction of Robert Allen; the crew under the direction of Wesley Quick.

Attaché was named Grand Champion of the Benton Community High School "Touch of Class" competition held in Van Home, Iowa on February 14, 2004. Attaché also received the Best Vocals, Best Choreography, Most Creative Show, and Best Male (Trey Finch) and Female (Jan Jefcoat) Soloist awards. Dexter Bishop was named the outstanding performer from Attaché.

Attaché was named Grand Champion of the Homewood High School "South Central Classic" competition held in Homewood, Alabama on February 21, 2004. Attaché also received the Best Vocals, Best Choreography, and Best Overall Effect awards. Attaché was named Grand Champion of the Mixed Show Choir at

the MIC Choral Competition held at North Central High School in Indianapolis, Indiana on March 20, 2004. Attaché also received the Best Vocals and Best Choreography awards.

Attaché was honored to be selected as the host choir for the Show Choir Nationals Competition held March 27, 2004, at the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, Tennessee. The 2004 Senior Class of Attaché is undefeated, having earned Grand Champion honors at every competition at which they competed during their three years of performing.

It is with great pride that we recognize the contributions of this national and internationally known musical group which has brought honor and acclaim to Clinton High School, the Clinton community, and to the State of Mississippi.

TRIBUTE TO NEW HAMPSHIRE'S
"WE THE PEOPLE: THE CITIZEN
AND THE CONSTITUTION"
AWARD WINNING TEAM

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a group of students and their teacher from Nashua High School South. After months of studying and hard fought competitions, this group proudly represented New Hampshire in the national finals of the "We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution" competition.

The students demonstrated their understanding of the Constitution before simulated congressional committees made up of constitutional scholars, lawyers, journalists, and government leaders. Their comprehension and knowledge of the founding principals our country is established upon earned the team a Unit Award for expertise in the "Extension of the Bill of Rights."

I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing these exceptional students from New Hampshire along with the more than 1,250 other high school students that also participated in the national finals. I proudly submit the members of the team for listing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Daniel Aldrich, Rhiannon Campbell, Byron Chicklis, Aaron Chillelli, Keith Crouse, Nathan Domingues, Charles Dowdell, Amanda A. Duquette, Timothy E. Gilpatrick, Tara Goulet, Melissa Hodges, Eileen Hynes, James Kaklamanos, and Erik Kiser.

Cassandra Loftus, Gregory M. McDonald, Christie McHugh, Peter McNamee, Caitlin Meagher, Catherine Ngo, Michelle Potter, Adam Rheault, Michael Snelgrove, Philip Trzcinski, Matthew Van Wagner, Erin Lynne Walford, and Tarin LaFrance, Teacher.

IN HONOR OF WILLIAM I. "IRVIN"
WARREN

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of North Carolina's leading citizens, Mr. William I. "Irvin" Warren of the Harnett County community of Dunn.

Tomorrow evening, I will have the honor of presenting to Irvin the Distinguished Service Award from the Occoneechee Council of the Boy Scouts of America. The award is to be presented in recognition of his "Exemplary Public Service and Lifelong Fidelity to the Scouting Creed of Service to the Community." As a longtime leader of the Occoneechee Council, I can think of no individual more deserving of this award.

William I. Warren was born on June 2, 1942 in Sampson County, North Carolina, and like me, worked on his family tobacco farm growing up. He graduated from the Sampson County public schools and East Carolina University where he earned his bachelor's degree in education in 1964. He went on to get his master's degree at North Carolina State University, in my Congressional District, where he taught for 6 years.

In 1975, Mr. Warren took his life savings of \$14,000 and founded Warren Oil Company, Inc., where he sold motor oils packaged in his name. Mr. Warren is now Chief Operating Officer of Warren Oil, having led the company for 29 years. The company, which formerly was housed in 5,000 feet of rental space, now owns and occupies more than one million square feet of warehouse space, storing more than fifty million gallons of oil. Currently, Warren Oil Company has locations in North Carolina, Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Pennsylvania and Texas and employs more than four hundred and fifty workers. Throughout the course of his career, Mr. Warren has increased the size of this local business from a small community business to the largest independent oil company in North America. Warren Oil Company, Inc. currently owns twenty U.S. registered trademarks and exports to more than twenty countries worldwide.

Throughout his successful career in business, William Warren has served our community in numerous capacities. He has served on the boards of the Betsey Johnson Regional Hospital, Dunn Area Chamber of Commerce, Standard Bank & Trust Company, Harnett County Industrial Development and the New Century Bank. He has been a member of the Masonic Lodge and Shrine Club for more than 30 years and is past Chairman of the Board of Directors for Divine Street United Methodist Church. As a community activist myself for more than thirty years, I know that whenever a good cause needs support, the first thought on folks' minds is, "Call Irv."

A proud family man, William I. Warren has two children, Wendy and Bill, five grandchildren, Reed, Colby, Jaimmy Warren, Morgan Spell and Benjamin Spell. The Warren Oil Company is truly a family business. Finally, Mr. Speaker, as the father of an Eagle Scout, it gives me great pleasure to present Boy Scouts of America's Distinguished Service Award to William I. "Irvin" Warren. And on behalf of the Congress of the United States and the people of North Carolina, let me offer my friend our heartfelt gratitude.

IN SUPPORT OF OUR TROOPS

HON. KATHERINE HARRIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Ms. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reaffirm my support for the best-trained, best-

skilled, and most courageous men and women on the face of the earth as they risk everything for the cause of freedom in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Tragically, the brutality and depravity of a small handful of soldiers toward Iraqi prisoners threatens to soil the incredible humanity that our military has displayed during the war and its aftermath. At risk to their own safety, nearly all of our troops have striven to protect Iraqi lives to the greatest extent possible.

While we must harshly and unambiguously condemn the sickening abuse perpetrated by a miniscule number of individuals as criminal and un-American, we must not permit the heinous acts of a few to taint the selfless and honorable service of so many.

Their heroic efforts have unquestionably made America safer. They have liberated nearly 50 million people from the oppression and despair that breeds terrorists, and they are fighting valiantly to create the freedom and hope that defeats terrorists.

God bless our troops and God bless the United States of America.

HONORING THE CENTER FOR
COUNSELING AT GARDEN CITY
HOSPITAL

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Garden City Hospital's Center for Counseling upon the center's 30th anniversary.

In 1974, the vision of former Garden City Hospital President and CEO Allan Breakie led to the development of counseling services which responded to an identified community need and also served as a resource for the medical staff of the hospital. Initially, the focus was on providing treatment for the chemically dependent patient in an inpatient setting.

Under the leadership of Dr. Phil O'Dwyer, the Center expanded into the treatment of eating disorders and a broader range of mental health issues. The Center received national attention when its Patient-Treatment matching system was described as a "model for the nation" in the 1990 Institute of Medicine (IOM) Report to Congress.

In recent years, services for children and adolescents were added, in response to the growing national concern with teen problems. In 2002, the Michigan Health and Hospital Association awarded the Center for Counseling its prestigious Patric Ludwig award for innovative community programming for adolescents.

Today, the Center has an experienced staff which includes a Board Certified psychiatrist, doctoral and masters level psychologists, clinical social workers and professional counselors.

Over the past 30 years, more than 8,000 patients and their families have benefited from the treatment services of the Center for Counseling. Countless numbers have benefited from the prevention and education efforts undertaken through seminars, public presentations, and TV and radio appearances.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Congress, the 8,000 patients, and family members, I would like to thank the Center for Counseling at the

Garden City Hospital for their 30 years of service to the community.

RECOGNIZING OUTSTANDING
TEACHERS IN BURR RIDGE, IL

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor five outstanding teachers in my district: Virginia Bojan, Cate Nufer, Beverly Oliveri, Nancy Taylor, and Patricia Trudicks.

Virginia Bojan, a language arts and science teacher at Elm Elementary School in Burr Ridge, is retiring after 33 years of dedicated teaching. She is well respected among her peers for her excellent teaching methods and pleasant demeanor. Her students also love and respect her. It is obvious that Mrs. Bojan loves teaching, and this love is reflected in her devotion to her students. She will most certainly be missed.

Elm Elementary School also will be losing Cate Nufer, who is retiring after 36 years. Ms. Nufer is a talented teacher who is recognized for her leadership in the areas of writing and social studies. Her students have consistently excelled on all state tests. She has made a positive impact on hundreds of students in both their academic and personal development.

Beverly Oliveri is also retiring after 34 years of teaching and directing curriculum for School District 181 in Burr Ridge. Her work in mathematics led to a revision in curriculum to improve the way math is taught in the district. Her students always look forward to her unique style of story telling as a teaching method. Her love of life and of teaching is evident to all who encounter her.

Nancy Taylor is retiring after 34 years teaching language arts and mathematics. She has contributed to both the academic and social development of hundreds of children throughout her career. Her students thrive on her soft-spoken, gentle approach that helps her students. Her care and understanding of each child as an individual will be remembered.

Last but most certainly not least, Patricia Trudicks is retiring after 36 years of dedicated teaching. Ms. Trudicks is recognized in District 181 for her leadership in developing the Media Resource Center, which has become the hub of the school. It is continually updated to reflect the season, upcoming holidays and community events, and ongoing teaching units and student interests. Ms. Trudicks has shown how to make the library an exciting place for students and to encourage them to learn through the resources it provides. Her ability to provide children with hands-on experiences they will not forget has been greatly respected and will be deeply missed.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct privilege to honor these five teachers for their countless hours of hard work and dedication. They have positively impacted the lives of thousands of children, and their contributions to education will be recognized for many years to come. Teaching may be the most difficult profession, and these five outstanding educators are among the best. I know the students, parents and faculty of Elm Elementary are sad to see

them retire, but join me in offering these outstanding teachers our heartfelt thanks and congratulations.

RECOGNIZING THE VETERANS WHO
SERVED DURING WORLD WAR II,
THE AMERICANS WHO SUP-
PORTED THE WAR, AND CELE-
BRATING THE COMPLETION OF
THE NATIONAL WORLD WAR II
MEMORIAL

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the brave men and women who served our nation during World War II and to wholeheartedly support H. Con. Res. 409. The National World War II Memorial will be officially dedicated on May 29 to honor the 16,000,000 veterans who served in the United States Armed Forces during World War II and the millions of Americans who supported the war effort on the home front. Even today, we deeply appreciate the great service and sacrifice that those men and women gave in defense of our nation and the world.

The soldiers of World War II fought against unimaginable tyranny. They gave their blood, sweat, tears, and for many, their lives, to protect and preserve the American way of life. Veterans who served our country in World War II deserve a tribute to illustrate their valor and courage. The National World War II Memorial is a fitting and lasting tribute and only a down-payment to a debt we can never repay in full.

But to truly honor this nation's Greatest Generation, we must do more than just offer kind words and lasting memorials. It's time for Congress to live up to its promise to care for their health and well-being. It is time that we start adequately funding our veterans' health care system.

Today, only 1 in 4 World War II veterans are still surviving. Every day, 1,100 more die. Those surviving veterans are aging and their medical needs are increasing. It is a great dishonor to turn our back on those veterans; it is a great dishonor to make those men and women wait for needed health care and an even greater dishonor to turn them away from Veterans' Administration facilities.

There is a growing crisis in veterans' medical care: more than 30,000 veterans are waiting six months or more for an appointment at Veterans' Administration hospitals. Some are even dying before they see a doctor. In his 2005 budget, the President recommended a less than 2 percent increase in funding for veterans' medical care—not even enough to cover the cost of inflation. The President's budget also slashes \$294 million in funding for long-term care for America's veterans, which will reduce the number of patients treated by more than 8,000. That is not acceptable.

While the House-passed budget does provide \$1.2 billion above the President's wholly inadequate budget request, it is still \$1.3 billion below the amount of funding suggested on a bipartisan basis by the House Veterans' Affairs Committee and \$2 billion below the amount recommended by the Independent

Budget. The House-passed budget will not give the VA the resources it needs to reduce the backlog of patients or improve the quality of care. It will not end the Survivor Benefit Penalty or end the disability tax for the two-thirds of disabled veterans whose pension and disability payments are still offset. It will not give our World War II veterans the care they deserve. Democrats have offered a plan that will give veterans the care they deserve.

I urge my Colleagues to join me in honoring the sacrifice of World War II veterans by voting for this resolution. I also urge us to further honor those brave men and women by committing enough funding to meet their needs.

HONORING FALLEN LAW
ENFORCEMENT HEROES

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to all the true heroes—our law enforcement officers—who have made the supreme sacrifice in service to their community so that all of us can live in peace and safety.

Supporting law enforcement is very important to me because of my service as a law enforcement officer before coming to Congress in 1988. I am also a member of the House Law Enforcement Caucus.

As we reflect on our fallen heroes, it is important to focus on providing the necessary funding and support to these individuals to combat the growing challenges they face. It is the least we can do for those who put their lives on the line every day.

Since September 11, 2001, many in this nation and this Congress have a deeper appreciation for the importance of the sacrifices made by our law enforcement officers. Every day, hundreds of thousands of men and women protect and serve, often putting their own lives at risk. In honor of these dedicated law enforcement officers who have given their lives or have become disabled in the performance of duty, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and paying respect to our fallen heroes.

HONORING REVEREND DOCTOR
ROBIN G. MURRAY

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and honor the Reverend Doctor Robin G. Murray of Spring Hill in my Fifth Congressional District of Florida. After thirty-five years as an Episcopalian minister, Reverend Murray is retiring in Spring Hill.

Reverend Murray was one of the first people I met when I moved to Florida. His friendship and civic-mindedness motivated me to become involved in the Hernando County Legislature, and he has been an inspiration ever since.

A loving husband, father of three, and grandfather of two, Reverend Murray has an

endless, mile-wide humanitarian streak of dedication to his family and community. His devotion improves the lives of everyone he meets. He is district governor of Spring Hill Rotary and a true civic leader who I am proud and fortunate to call my constituent.

It is my honor and pleasure to recognize Reverend Robin G. Murray on the floor of this chamber today.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

**SUPPORTING FRIEDREICH'S
ATAXIA AWARENESS DAY**

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Friedrich's Ataxia Awareness Day, which is recognized each year on the third Saturday in May.

Friedreich's ataxia is a life-shortening neurological disorder that is usually diagnosed in childhood. It causes muscle weakness and loss of coordination in the arms and legs; impairment of vision, hearing and speech; scoliosis, diabetes; and a life-threatening heart condition. Most patients need a wheelchair full-time by their twenties. Life expectancy is reduced to early adulthood. There is currently no effective treatment or cure for Friedrich's ataxia.

Although there is no effective treatment or cure available, Friedrich's ataxia patients and families have more and more reason for real hope. An extraordinary explosion of research insights has followed the identification of the Friedrich's ataxia gene in 1996. Since that discovery, research scientists have learned a great deal about the disorder. We now know what defects in the gene cause the disease, what protein the gene is supposed to produce, what that protein is supposed to accomplish, and why a shortage of the protein results in the cell death that leads to the disease symptoms. Investigators are increasingly optimistic that they are drawing closer to understanding more fully the causes of Friedrich's ataxia and to developing effective treatments. In fact, they have recently declared that, "in Friedrich's ataxia, we have entered the treatment era."

At the National Institutes of Health and around the world, clinical trials for Friedrich's ataxia are being conducted on drugs that hold real promise. Growing cooperation among organizations supporting the research and the multidisciplinary efforts of thousands of scientists and health care professionals provide powerful evidence of the increasing hope and determination to conquer Friedrich's ataxia. There is also a growing conviction that treatments can and will be developed for this disease and that the resulting insights will be broadly applicable across a wide range of neurological disorders such as Parkinson's, Huntington's and Alzheimer's.

On the third Saturday of May, events will be held across our country to increase public awareness of Friedrich's ataxia and to raise funds to support the research that promises treatments for this disease. I applaud the Friedrich's Ataxia Research Alliance (FARA) for its contributions to these efforts and ask

my colleagues to join me in recognizing May 15, 2004, as Friedrich's Ataxia Awareness Day to show our concern for all those families affected by this disorder and to express our support and encouragement for their efforts to achieve treatments and a cure. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MOTION TO TABLE THE MILLER
MOTION TO INSTRUCT ON H.R. 2660**

HON. JIM NUSSLE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, as those who have followed previous debates on the administration's proposed overtime rule changes may know, my position is clear. I have voted a number of times to uphold overtime protection for workers in Iowa and across the United States. In the future, I will continue my commitment to Iowa's workers.

However, today's motion to instruct introduced by the gentleman from California, Mr. MILLER, is nothing more than a twisted procedural gimmick. The ridiculous motion would instruct conferees to act on a bill that was signed into law months ago. There are no conferees to instruct.

I will keep standing up for Iowa's working families as we consider this matter in the future, but those debates should be real and meaningful. As such I will vote yes on the motion to table.

**CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
MILDRED "MILLIE" JEFFREY**

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mildred "Millie" Jeffrey, a strong leader, community activist and protector of our United States Constitution. Millie passed away on Wednesday, March 24, 2004.

Through seven decades of social activism, Millie Jeffrey demonstrated how one individual can influence the battle for social justice by empowering victims of exploitation and discrimination to fight for equality and opportunity.

Millie was on the Board of Governors at Wayne State University, and she was the Director of the United Auto Workers (UAW) Consumer Affairs Department. Millie served with dedication and brought to her endeavors a brimming optimism. Millie was a mentor for legions of women and men in the labor, civil rights, women's rights, and peace movements. She is most remembered for her humor, passion for life, and her goodwill that will be remembered for generations to come.

Millie once said; "You never win freedom permanently. You have to win it time after time; whether it's union rights, civil rights, or equality for women." In the words of Michigan's Governor Jennifer Granholm, "The greatest honor we can pay her, is to recommit to working for fairness and justice for all of our citizens today and everyday."

Everyone knew that if they wanted to hear true wisdom one would have to talk to Millie.

She helped pave the way for women in politics everywhere. With her long list of accomplishments and accolades she became an icon of modern politics. On August 9, 2000 President Clinton awarded Millie the Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian award bestowed by the United States Government, for her selfless acts for peace. When awarding her the Presidential Medal of Freedom, President Bill Clinton said, "She may be small in stature and humble in manner, but she is very strong."

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to pay tribute to the life and work of "Millie" Jeffrey and express my deepest condolences to her family and to all who knew, loved, and were touched by her life.

**ADDRESS OF SECRETARY OF
STATE COLIN POWELL AT THE
BERLIN CONFERENCE ON ANTI-
SEMITISM**

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, at the Conference on Anti-Semitism of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) held in Berlin on April 28th, our very distinguished Secretary of State Colin Powell headed the United States delegation. It was my advice that the Secretary personally lead the American delegation to this conference because his presence would give the issue of European anti-Semitism the high-level attention it needs and deserves.

Today, Europe faces a disturbing rise in anti-Semitic rhetoric and anti-Semitic violence. I recently attended the inauguration of a new Holocaust museum in my native Hungary. Two days earlier, Hungarian police arrested a man plotting to blow it up. The decision to target a Holocaust memorial reveals the profound connection between the great nightmare of the mid-twentieth century and the racist threats that Jews around the world continue to face today.

Because of this intolerance, I co-founded the Congressional Task Force Against Anti-Semitism with a bipartisan number of Members of Congress. This organization is devoted to raising awareness and fighting the sickness of anti-Semitism wherever and whenever it occurs. On behalf of the Task Force, I would like to thank and commend Secretary Powell for his efforts at the Berlin Conference.

Mr. Speaker, as usual, Secretary Powell's remarks are eloquent and powerful, and they contain the wisdom of a man who has fought bigotry and racism himself during a lifetime of service to our nation. His emphatic reminder that "political disagreements do not justify physical assaults against Jews in our streets" is particularly welcome.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the full text of Secretary Powell's address to the Berlin Conference against anti-Semitism be placed in the RECORD, and I urge all of our colleagues to give the Secretary's excellent speech their thoughtful attention.

**REMARKS AT THE CONFERENCE ON ANTI-SEMITISM
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY
AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE**

Thank you very much, Mr. Moderator, Chairman Passy, Minister Fischer, Fellow

Ministers and Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen. It is a great pleasure for me to be here representing President Bush and the people of the United States.

Chairman Passy, let me thank you for your leadership in planning and organizing this important conference on anti-Semitism. I also wish to extend my sincere appreciation to the German Government and to my good friend Joschka Fischer for hosting our gathering and for taking a strong stand against this age-old yet active and evolving form of intolerance. And let me take this occasion to honor President Rau, not just for opening the conference, but also for his leadership against anti-Semitism and on so many other compelling moral issues during his 52 years of distinguished public service to Germany and to the world.

Berlin is a fitting backdrop for our meeting. The firestorm of anti-Semitic hatred that was the Holocaust was set here in Berlin. The Holocaust was no ordinary conflagration, but a colossal act of arson, unprecedented in scale with the annihilation of a people as its purpose. Six million Jews and millions of other men, women and children perished in the flames of fascism. European civilization as we thought we knew it was rent asunder.

Yet, it was also here in Berlin that a new, democratic Germany rose from the ashes of the Second World War. And in this city, a new Europe, whole and free, was born after the fall of that other great tyranny of the 20th century: communism.

Now, in the opening decade of the 21st century, we, 55 democratic nations of Europe, Eurasia and America, have come to Berlin to stamp out the new fires of anti-Semitism within our societies, and to kindle lights of tolerance so that future generations will never know the unspeakable horrors that hatred can unleash.

When President Bush visited the Auschwitz death camp last year he renewed the United States' commitment to oppose anti-Semitism with these words: "This site is a sobering reminder that when we find anti-Semitism, whether it be in Europe, in America or anywhere else, mankind must come together to fight such dark impulses."

Today, we confront the ugly reality that anti-Semitism is not just a fact of history, but a current event.

At a planning session for this conference, Benjamin Meed, the President of the American Gathering of Holocaust Survivors, said "Sixty years after the Holocaust I never thought that I would be invited to a meeting on anti-Semitism in Europe." Indeed.

We are appalled that in recent years the incidence of anti-Semitic hate crimes has been on the increase within our community of democratic nations. All of us recognize that we must take decisive measures to reverse this disturbing trend.

Our states must work together with non-governmental organizations, religious leaders and other respected figures within our societies to combat anti-Semitism by word and deed. We need to work in close partnership to create a culture of social tolerance and civic courage, in which anti-Semitism and other forms of racial and religious hatred are met with the active resistance of our citizens, authorities and political leaders.

We must send the clear message far and wide that anti-Semitism is always wrong and it is always dangerous.

We must send the clear message that anti-Semitic hate crimes are exactly that: crimes, and that these crimes will be aggressively prosecuted.

We must not permit anti-Semitic crimes to be shrugged off as inevitable side effects of inter-ethnic conflicts. Political disagreements do not justify physical assaults

against Jews in our streets, the destruction of Jewish schools, or the desecration of synagogues and cemeteries. There is no justification for anti-Semitism.

It is not anti-Semitic to criticize the policies of the state of Israel. But the line is crossed when Israel or its leaders are demonized or vilified, for example by the use of Nazi symbols and racist caricatures.

We must send the clear message to extremists of the political right and the political left alike that all those who use hate as a rallying cry dishonor themselves and dishonor their cause in the process.

Regrettably, my country has its share of anti-Semites and skinheads and other assorted racists, bigots and extremists, who feed on fear and ignorance and prey on the vulnerable.

As a nation of many united as one, we are determined to speak out and take action at home and abroad against anti-Semitism and other forms of intolerance and to promote the rights of persons belonging to minorities. As President Bush has said: "America stands for the non-negotiable demands of human dignity."

Fortunately the overwhelming majority of Americans are repelled by these hate-mongers and reject their vicious ways, their vicious views, their vicious attitudes. Overwhelmingly the American people embrace diversity as a national asset and tolerance is embraced as a civic virtue. Our laws and our leaders reflect those enlightened sentiments.

Not only do we believe that combating hatred is the right thing to do, we think that promoting tolerance is essential to building a democratic, prosperous and peaceful world. Hatred is a destroyer, not a builder. People consumed by hate cannot construct a better future for themselves or for their children.

So much of the misery and instability around the world today is caused or exacerbated by ethnic and religious intolerance, whether it's central Africa or the Middle East, Northern Ireland or Cyprus, Kosovo or Darfur. The distance from prejudice to violence, intolerance to atrocity, can be perilously short. The lessons of the Holocaust are timeless and urgent. In this new century, it is more important than ever for our leaders and citizens to counter anti-Semitism and other forms of hatred whenever and wherever they meet them.

It is especially important that we instill in our children values and behaviors that can avert new calamities. The sixteen-nation Task Force for International Cooperation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research has done a great deal already to increase understanding among young people of the Holocaust and its enduring lessons. And we welcome the growing interest on the part of other countries to join that Task Force.

Tolerance, like hatred, is a learned behavior passed from one generation to the next unless the new generation is educated differently. Let tolerance be our legacy. May future generations of schoolchildren read that in the early decades of the 21st century, mankind finally consigned anti-Semitism to history, never to darken the world again.

The United States delegation, led by former New York City Mayor Ed Koch, is here to listen. They're here to learn and to share best practices against anti-Semitism. We will have the benefit of Mayor Koch's direct experience dealing with hate crimes in the world's most ethnically diverse metropolis in my hometown, New York City. Our delegation also draws expertise from Members of our Congress and from close partnership with non-governmental leaders doing pioneering work in the tolerance field.

The exchange of insights and ideas among our delegations here in Berlin should form a solid basis for practical action by each of our

nations. There is much yet that we can do in key areas of law enforcement, legislation and education to follow up on the decisions we took last December in Maastricht.

That's why I'm pleased that last week the Permanent Council of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe committed all of our 55 states to take further concrete actions against anti-Semitism. The OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights in Warsaw will play a central role. This office now has a clear mandate to work with member states to collect hate crimes statistics, to track anti-Semitic incidents and to report publicly on these matters. The office also will help states develop national legislation against hate crimes and promote tolerance through education. And I know that in the course of your deliberations here other ideas will arise as to how we can put action behind our words, and whether we have institutionalized these actions in a proper way.

So, my friends, here in Berlin, the 55 democratic nations of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe have come together and will stand together and we will declare with one voice: "Anti-Semitism shall have no place among us. Hate shall find no home within a Europe whole, free and at peace." Thank you, Mr. Moderator.

UPON RETIREMENT OF DR.
RONALD L. FEIST

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to express warm thanks, congratulations, and best wishes to Dr. Ronald L. Feist upon his retirement as the superintendent of the Eureka Union School District, in Placer County, CA. Ron has done an outstanding job and deserves the appreciation of students, parents, and the general public in the community he has served so well for 22 years.

Ron grew up on a farm in Minnesota, where almost no one in his family had previously attended college and most only completed the eighth grade before turning to farming. However, following the example and encouragement of many fine teachers and coaches, Ron opted to set a new precedent for his family by accepting an academic scholarship and competing in basketball at the college level.

In 1965, Ron earned a bachelor of arts degree in Chemistry/Physics from Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota. Four years later, he completed a master of arts degree in the same field from Fisk University in Nashville, TN. Subsequently, he earned an Administrative Credential from California State University, Fullerton, in 1972 and a Doctorate of Education in Education Administration from Nova University in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, in 1978.

Ron stayed the course by becoming a coach and science teacher himself, first in his native State, then in Glendora, CA, before accepting administrative duties at Pamona Unified School District and Napa Valley School District. Then in 1977, he came to South Placer County as the principal of Oakmont High School.

In 1982, Ron launched his 22-year tenure as the superintendent of the Eureka Union School District. When he took over, the district

had only two and a half schools, 1,100 students, and negative finances. Today, as a result of his leadership, it boasts nine highly acclaimed schools, 4,250 students, and a sound financial condition, despite the difficult challenges facing state and local governments in California. Moreover, student achievement, as measured in test scores and parent satisfaction, is very high. I think it is also remarkable to note that, while heading such a successful district, Ron continued to teach school finance and law part-time at the University of LaVerne from 1988 through 2001.

Mr. Speaker, several prestigious honors have highlighted Dr. Feist's 38-year career as an educator. For example, he was the Napa County Teacher of the Year in 1974–75; in 1988, he was named the Placer County Distinguished School Administrator; in 1990–91, he was recognized as the Placer County Administrator of the Year; and in 2001–02, he was named Region 2 Superintendent of the Year. He also received the Napa Parent Teacher Association Distinguished Service Award in 1977 and the Oakmont Parents Club Outstanding Service Award in 1980.

Ron functions as the vice president of the Nevada/Placer County School Insurance Board and on the Placer/Nevada County Special Education Executive Committee. Additionally, he represented ten counties in Northern California for two years on the State Superintendency Committee of the Association of California School Administrators.

Mr. Speaker, beyond his role with the school district, Ron has been an invaluable member of the local community, having served on many boards and committees. He is the past president of the Granite Bay Chamber of Commerce, Roseville and Granite Bay Kiwanis Clubs, and Sierra Family Services, as well as past chairman of the Granite Bay Municipal Advisory Committee.

However, despite all the acclaim he has received professionally and civically, Ron's great-

est success has occurred in the home. He and his wife of 42 years, Diane, raised three children Troy, Amy, and Heidi. In retirement, Ron looks forward to spending more time with his family, especially his nine grandchildren—Alexa, Hunter, Bryce, Jordan, Brennan, Hannah, Whitney, Devin, and Baron.

Ron will also have more time now to dedicate to his many interests, including golf, traveling, reading, cardio-training, and weight lifting. Nevertheless, it will be hard to keep him away from public education completely. He plans to do some consulting for school districts in the areas of finance and facilities.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the many people whom he has touched over the years, I thank Dr. Ron Feist for his service and wish him well in his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF FLAKE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, today I voted “no” on final passage of H.R. 4280, the Help Efficient, Accessible, Low Cost, Timely Healthcare (HEALTH) Act of 2004.

This is not the first time I have had to make this difficult vote. On March 13, 2003, I voted against H.R. 5, which contained nearly identical language to H.R. 2480. Both in 2003 and today, I have heard arguments as to why the Federal Government should act and why this proposed reform is badly needed. Hearing these arguments on many occasions has not made it any less difficult to vote against this bill, but I am not convinced that the Federal Government should preempt State law in this area.

Those supporting this bill have made some compelling arguments as to why Congress

should step in and institute these reforms. They cite the national nature of insurance plans, whereby a doctor in Arizona might have to pay more for malpractice insurance due to an over-the-top jury award in Florida. They also note that, as doctors close up shop or stop providing high-risk care in specialties such as emergency medicine and obstetrics and gynecology, patients are forced to cross State lines in order to seek out treatment. We have all watched with dismay as hospitals have been forced to shut their doors and doctors have opted to treat patients without malpractice insurance due to the high costs of premiums. Certainly, the trial attorneys who line their pockets with egregious fees aren't suffering as a result of the mess they've made with unscrupulous lawsuits. These arguments only underscore an already evident need for the States to pursue medical malpractice reforms. However, as one who believes firmly in federalism, I am wary of supporting legislation that would, in effect, preempt other States' constitutions.

For example, California instituted real medical malpractice reform 25 years ago, which H.R. 4280 seeks to emulate. However, if the final version of H.R. 4280 differs from California's reform, then their system may ultimately be usurped by the new Federal authority created by this legislation. Punishing California's sensible reforms would be a terrible outcome.

The natural evolution of health care delivery suggest that a Federal solution such as H.R. 4280 may one day be necessary. But right now it's up to the States to begin that process, and I am already a part of those efforts in Arizona. The States should follow California's example, which has been an undeniable success over the past 25 years.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, May 13, 2004 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 17

2 p.m.
Aging
To hold hearings to examine how the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's recent rule affects retiree health benefits.
SD-628

MAY 18

9:30 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Aviation Subcommittee
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Aviation Administration.
SR-253

Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the way ahead in Iraq.
SD-419

10 a.m.
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program.
SD-538

Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine implications of a recent change in reporting of small business contracts by the Department of Energy.
SD-366

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine proposed legislation authorizing funds for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.
SD-430

Aging
To hold hearings to examine social security reform issues, and comparing the U.S. social security system with other nations'.
SD-628

10:30 a.m.
Appropriations
Foreign Operations Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for HIV/AIDS programs and research.
SD-124

Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine preserving traditional marriage, focusing on states' perspective.
SD-226

2 p.m.
Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine the threat of animal and eco-terrorism.
SD-226

MAY 19

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Water and Power Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine S. 900, to convey the Lower Yellowstone Irrigation Project, the Savage Unit of the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program, and the Intake Irrigation Project to the pertinent irrigation districts, S. 1876, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain lands and facilities of the Provo River Project, S. 1957, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to cooperate with the States on the border with Mexico and other appropriate entities in conducting a hydrogeologic characterization, mapping, and modeling program for priority transboundary aquifers, S. 2304 and H.R. 3209, bills to amend the Reclamation Project Authorization Act of 1972 to clarify the acreage for which the North Loup division is authorized to provide irrigation water under the Missouri River Basin project, S. 2243, to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project in the State of Alaska, H.R. 1648, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain water distribution systems of the Cachuma Project, California, to the Carpinteria Valley Water District and the Montecito Water District, and H.R. 1732, to amend the Reclamation Waste-water and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Williamson County, Texas, Water Recycling and Reuse Project.
SD-366

9:30 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine personal gain relating to a transition from public sector to private sector.
SR-253

Foreign Relations
To continue hearings to examine the way ahead in Iraq.
SD-419

10 a.m.
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the International Monetary Fund and World Bank.
SD-538

Indian Affairs
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business; to be followed by a hearing to examine S. 1696, to amend the Indian Self-Determination and

Education Assistance Act to provide further self-governance by Indian tribes.
SR-485

11:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.
SD-366

2:30 p.m.
Aging
To hold hearings to examine Health Savings Accounts and the New Medicare Law, focusing on the future of health care.
SD-628

MAY 20

9:30 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine SPAM.
SR-253

Indian Affairs
To hold hearings to examine S. 2382, to establish grant programs for the development of telecommunications capacities in Indian country.
SR-485

10 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine prescription drug reimportation.
SD-430

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine S. 1672, to expand the Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve, Florida, S. 1789 and H.R. 1616, bills to authorize the exchange of certain lands within the Martin Luther King, Junior, National Historic Site for lands owned by the City of Atlanta, Georgia, S. 1808, to provide for the preservation and restoration of historic buildings at historically women's public colleges or universities, S. 2167, to establish the Lewis and Clark National Historical Park in the States of Washington and Oregon, and S. 2173, to further the purposes of the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site Establishment Act of 2000.
SD-366

JUNE 2

9:30 a.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the greater Middle East initiative.
SD-419

SEPTEMBER 21

10 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the American Legion.
345 CHOB

CANCELLATIONS

MAY 19

9:30 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Business meeting to consider pending calendar items.
SD-430